



Report

Secure Programming Assignment 2

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1. Section 1

1.1. Find a Web Application

I decided that the potential application must have the following qualities:

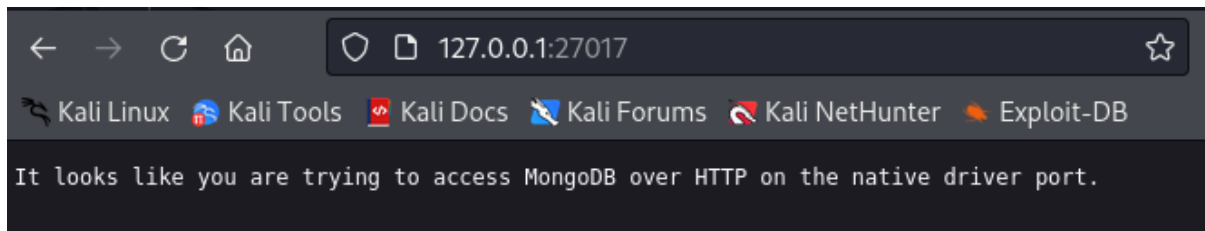
- Recent maintained open-source web application, preferably with commits within the last year.
- Sufficient medium to advanced vulnerabilities to explore.
- Ability/capacity to compile/run the application.

There were several applications that I considered as most appropriate. I was unable to run some of the application as they relied on configured databases as below notwithstanding that I had MongoDB running locally.

```
(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof]
$ npm start

> goof@1.0.1 start
> NODE_OPTIONS=--openssl-legacy-provider node app.js

{"app":{},"services":{},"isLocal":true,"name":"goof","port":6001,"bind":"localhost","urls":["http://localhost:6001"],"url":"http://localhost:6001"}
Using Mongo URI mongodb://localhost/express-todo
express-session deprecated undefined resave option; provide resave option app.js:42:9
express-session deprecated undefined saveUninitialized option; provide saveUninitialized option app.js:42:9
token: SECRET_TOKEN_f8ed84e8f41e4146403dd4a6bbcea5e418d23a9
Express server listening on port 3001
Failed connecting and seeding users to the MySQL database
AggregateError [ECONNREFUSED]:
    at internalConnectMultiple (node:net:1119:18)
    at afterConnectMultiple (node:net:1679:7)
    at Protocol._enqueue (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/mysql/lib/protocol/Protocol.js:144:48)
    at Protocol.handshake (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/mysql/lib/protocol/Protocol.js:51:23)
    at PoolConnection.connect (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/mysql/lib/Connection.js:116:18)
    at Pool.getConnection (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/mysql/lib/Pool.js:48:16)
    at /home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/typeorm/driver/mysql/MySQLDriver.js:786:18
    at new Promise (<anonymous>)
    at MySQLDriver.createPool (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/typeorm/driver/mysql/MySQLDriver.js:783:16)
    at MySQLDriver.<anonymous> (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/typeorm/driver/mysql/MySQLDriver.js:278:5)
    1) at step (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/tslib/tslib.js:136:27)
    at Object.next (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/tslib/tslib.js:117:57)
    at /home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/tslib/tslib.js:110:75
    at new Promise (<anonymous>)
    at Object.__awaiter (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/tslib/tslib.js:106:16)
    at MySQLDriver.connect (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/typeorm/driver/mysql/MySQLDriver.js:263:24)
    at Connection.<anonymous> (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/typeorm/connection/Connection.js:111:58)
    at step (/home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/nodejs-goof/node_modules/tslib/tslib.js:136:27) {
  code: 'ECONNREFUSED',
  fatal: true,
  [errors]: [
    Error: connect ECONNREFUSED ::1:3306
        at createConnectionError (node:net:1642:14)
        at afterConnectMultiple (node:net:1672:16) {
      errno: -111,
      code: 'ECONNREFUSED',
      syscall: 'connect',
      address: '::1',
      port: 3306
    },
    Error: connect ECONNREFUSED 127.0.0.1:3306
        at createConnectionError (node:net:1642:14)
        at afterConnectMultiple (node:net:1672:16) {
      errno: -111,
      code: 'ECONNREFUSED',
      syscall: 'connect',
      address: '127.0.0.1',
      port: 3306
    }
  ]
}
]
[]
no admin
```



Trouble shooting somebody else code and DB error turned out to be quite time consuming and frustrating. Therefore, I decided to find another project that will compile and run. I have found two smaller projects that I managed to successfully run on my machine:

- <https://github.com/michealkeines/Vulnerable-API>
- <https://github.com/guiadeappsec/vuln-flask-web-app>

However, the vulnerabilities available and its complexity did not satisfy author's requirements.

After testing 7 applications in total, I **decided to choose PyGoat** available at <https://github.com/adeyosemanputra/pygoat> as this project fulfilled all the pre-requisite requirements for the assignment:

Name	Size	Type	Date Modified
DSVPWA	4.0 KiB	Folder	11/24/2024
nodejs-goof	4.0 KiB	Folder	11/24/2024
pygoat	4.0 KiB	Folder	Saturday
snyk-demo-todo	4.0 KiB	Folder	11/24/2024
Social-Media	4.0 KiB	Folder	11/27/2024
Vulnerable-API-main	4.0 KiB	Folder	11/24/2024
vuln-flask-web-app	4.0 KiB	Folder	11/24/2024

The application was run the using the following commands, firstly by creating a virtual environment using command `python3 -m venv venv`:

```
(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2/pygoat]
$ source venv/bin/activate

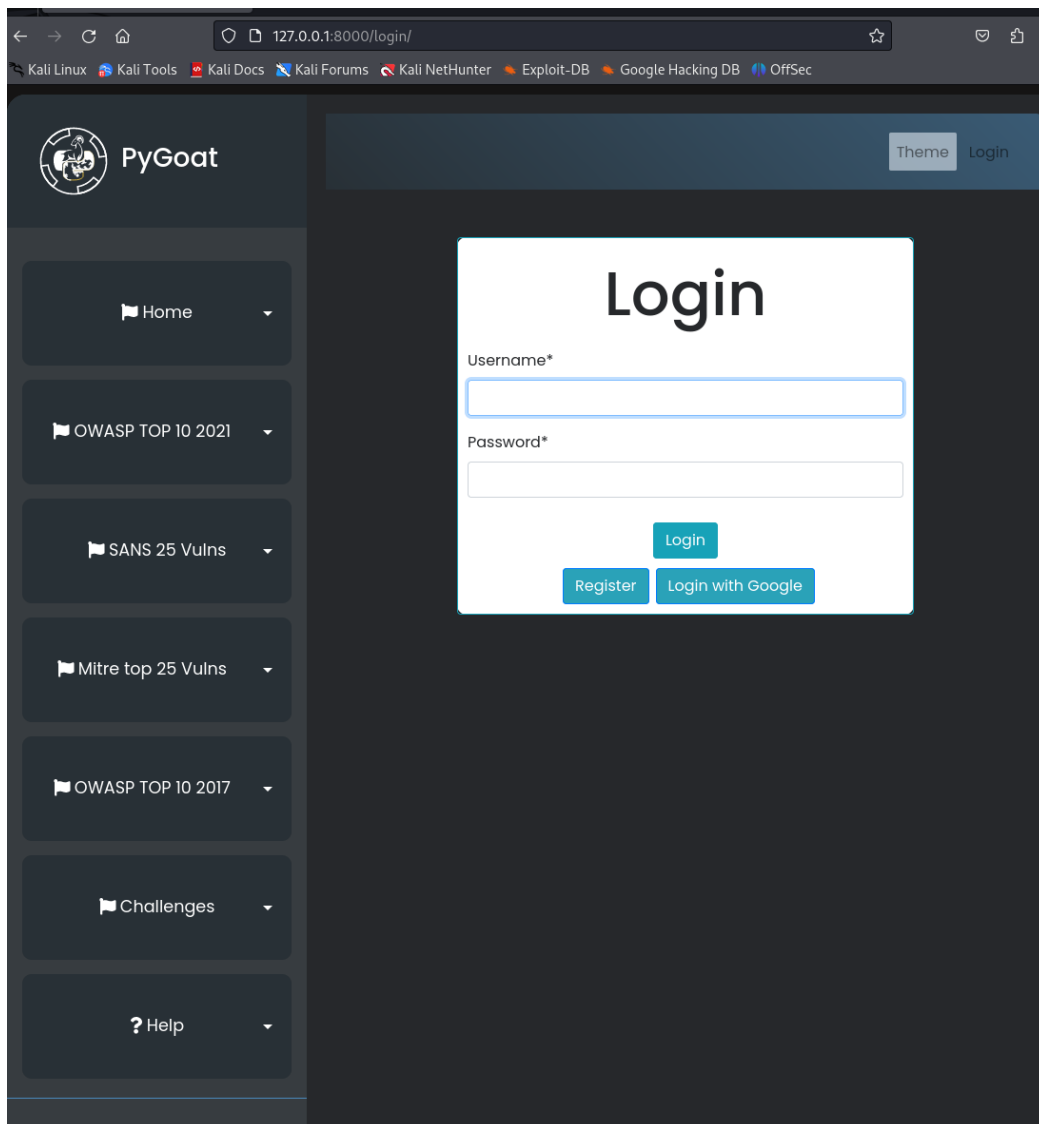
(venv)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2/pygoat]
$ pip install -r requirements.txt
```

```
(venv)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2/pygoat]
$ python3 manage.py migrate
Operations to perform:
  Apply all migrations: account, admin, auth, contenttypes, introduction, sessions, sites, socialaccount
Running migrations:
  No migrations to apply.

(venv)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2/pygoat]
$ python3 manage.py runserver
Watching for file changes with StatReloader
Performing system checks...

System check identified no issues (0 silenced).
December 05, 2024 - 20:21:22
Django version 4.1.7, using settings 'pygoat.settings'
Starting development server at http://127.0.0.1:8000/
Quit the server with CONTROL-C.
```

The application website run on the loopback IP 127.0.0.1:8000 and the had following interface:



1.2. Static Analyser Comparison

As a pre-requisite, to run the applications scanners via the website interface as opposed to only local scanners that have limited functionality, the scanners required supplying the relevant code via Git repository which has been created and authorised for scans in Snyk and Semgrep application Below is a screenshot confirming push to the GitHub repository:

```

Future: Authentication failed for https://github.com/FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2.git
● PS S:\Kali\Assignmnet 2\pygoat> git config --global credential.helper store
● PS S:\Kali\Assignmnet 2\pygoat> git push -u origin master
info: please complete authentication in your browser...
Enumerating objects: 12747, done.
Counting objects: 100% (12747/12747), done.
Delta compression using up to 16 threads
Compressing objects: 100% (7136/7136), done.
Writing objects: 100% (12747/12747), 17.94 MiB | 6.11 MiB/s, done.
Total 12747 (delta 4270), reused 12734 (delta 4261), pack-reused 0
remote: Resolving deltas: 100% (4270/4270), done.
To https://github.com/FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2.git
 * [new branch]      master -> master
branch 'master' set up to track 'origin/master'.
○ PS S:\Kali\Assignmnet 2\pygoat> 

```

1.2.1. Snyk

Following local installation and configuration of Snyk version 1.1294.1:

```

(kali@kali)-[~]
$ snyk --version
1.1294.1

```

Static application security testing was performed:

```

(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2/pygoat]
$ snyk code test . > resultSnyk.txt

```

```

resultSnyk.txt
347
348 x [High] Code Injection
349 Path: introduction/mitre.py, line 218
350 Info: Unsanitized input from an HTTP parameter flows into eval, where it is executed as Python code. This may result in a Code Injection vulnerability.
351
352 x [High] Deserialization of Untrusted Data
353 Path: introduction/views.py, line 213
354 Info: Unsanitized input from cookies flows into pickle.loads, where it is used to deserialize an object. This may result in an Unsafe Deserialization vulnerability.
355
356 x [High] Deserialization of Untrusted Data
357 Path: introduction/views.py, line 553
358 Info: Unsanitized input from an uploaded file flows into yaml.load, where it is used to deserialize an object. This may result in an Unsafe Deserialization vulnerability.
359
360 x [High] Path Traversal
361 Path: introduction/views.py, line 920
362 Info: Unsanitized input from an HTTP parameter flows into open, where it is used as a path. This may result in a Path Traversal vulnerability and allow an attacker to read arbitrary files.
363
364 ✓ Test completed
365
366 Organization:   konefalsebastian
367 Test type:     Static code analysis
368 Project path:  .
369
370 Summary:
371
372 90 Code issues found
373 12 [High]  41 [Medium]  37 [Low]
374
375
376
377

```

90 code issues were found of which 12 were High, 41 Medium and 37 Low. There was no suggestion on potential fixes of the vulnerabilities in the local scan.

Snyk also has an option to add the project to the dashboard to track changed in vulnerabilities:

```
(venv)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2/pygoat]
$ snyk monitor

Monitoring /home/kali/Documents/Assignmnet 2/pygoat (pygoat) ...

Explore this snapshot at https://app.snyk.io/org/konefalsebastian/project/631b5ee8-8f59-41c8-8874-5c4ad05d5c06/history/36a6aa3e-e986-4f6a-9a66-a4b9831aa382

Notifications about newly disclosed issues related to these dependencies will be emailed to you.
```

Screenshot of dashboard following activating the Snyk via Github repository was placed below. It can be seen that the scanner distinguished between results from Dockerfile, requirements.txt and the code source in the repository. The assigned will focus on vulnerabilities in the source code.

The screenshot shows the Snyk dashboard for 'FuturumTech'. It features a sidebar with navigation icons and a main content area. At the top, there's a banner about team collaboration. Below it, the 'Top pending tasks' section lists two projects with their respective issue counts. The 'Top vulnerable projects' section is highlighted with a blue box and lists three projects: 'FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2.Dockerfile', 'FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2.requirements.txt', and 'FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2'. Each project entry shows the time since the last test and a breakdown of vulnerability counts by severity (Critical, High, Medium, Low).

Project	Tested	Issues	Actions
FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2.Dockerfile	3 minutes ago	26 C, 135 H, 196 M, 433 L	Fix vulnerabilities
FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2.requirements.txt	2 minutes ago	7 C, 15 H, 32 M, 5 L	Fix vulnerabilities
FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2	3 minutes ago	0 C, 12 H, 41 M, 37 L	

There are additional features available on the website such as sorting and scoring vulnerabilities. The local scan and website overview provided the same number of issues of the source code in the amount of 90 vulnerabilities indicating that 61 files were suitable for code analysis as containing source code and has very convenient filter of vulnerability types. The vulnerability is also mapped to CWE ID:

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Overview

History

Settings

FuturumTech

>

Projects

>

FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2

main

Open on GitHub

Code Analysis

Created Sat 7th Dec 2024 | Snapshot for commit ee8e2d8 taken by snyk.io 9 minutes ago | Retest now

IMPORTED BY
futurumtechgithub@gmail.com

PROJECT OWNER
Add a project owner

ENVIRONMENT
Add a value

BUSINESS CRITICALITY
Add a value

LIFECYCLE
Add a value

ANALYSIS SUMMARY
61 analyzed files (28%) Repo breakdown

Issues 90

90 of 90 issues

Group by none Sort by highest severity

Deserialization of Untrusted Data

SNYK CODE CWE-502

SCORE 803

209 token = encoded_user

210 response.set_cookie(key="token",value=token.decode('utf-8'))

211 else:

212 token = base64.b64decode(token)

213 admin = pickle.loads(token)

Unsanitized input from cookies flows into pickle.loads, where it is used to deserialize an object. This may result in an Unsafe Deserialization vulnerability.

introduction/views.py

10 steps in 1 file

Learn about this type of vulnerability and how to fix it

Ignore

Full details

VULNERABILITY TYPES

Cross-Site Request For... 25

Use of Hardcoded Cre... 17

Sensitive Cookie Witho... 15

Sensitive Cookie in HT... 15

Deserialization of Untru... 2

SQL Injection 2

Use of Password Hash ... 2

Command Injection 2

Code Injection 2

Insecure Xml Parser 2

Use of Hardcoded Crypt... 2

Cross-site Scripting (XSS) 1

Hardcoded Secret 1

Path Traversal 1

Server-Side Request For... 1

Snyk also provides tracking of supply chain vulnerabilities: **open-source vulnerabilities and license issues** (Snyk Limited, 2024):

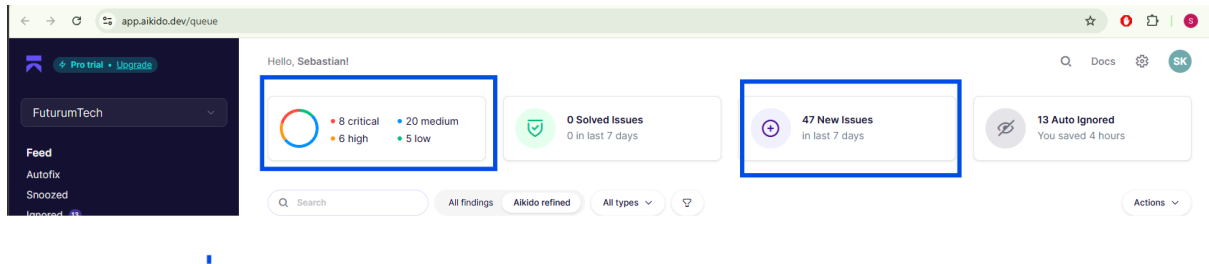
The screenshot shows the Snyk web interface for a project named 'requirements.txt'. The interface includes a sidebar with navigation options like Overview, History, and Settings. The main content area displays project metadata such as 'Imported by', 'Project Owner', 'Python' version (3.7.4), and 'Environment'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Issues' (59), 'Fixes', and 'Dependencies' (34). A search bar and a 'Fix these vulnerabilities' button are present. A list of vulnerabilities is shown, with filters for Severity (Critical, High, Medium, Low), Priority Score, and 'Fixed In' availability. The first vulnerability listed is 'pillow - Heap-based Buffer Overflow' with a score of 909. It includes details about the vulnerability, its introduction through pillow@9.4.0, and its fix in pillow@10.0.1. The interface also shows a 'Show more detail' link and a 'Fix this vulnerability' button.

Additional information is also available of each vulnerability noting **CWE, CVE and CVSS severity**, providing an overview of the vulnerabilities and suggesting fixes:

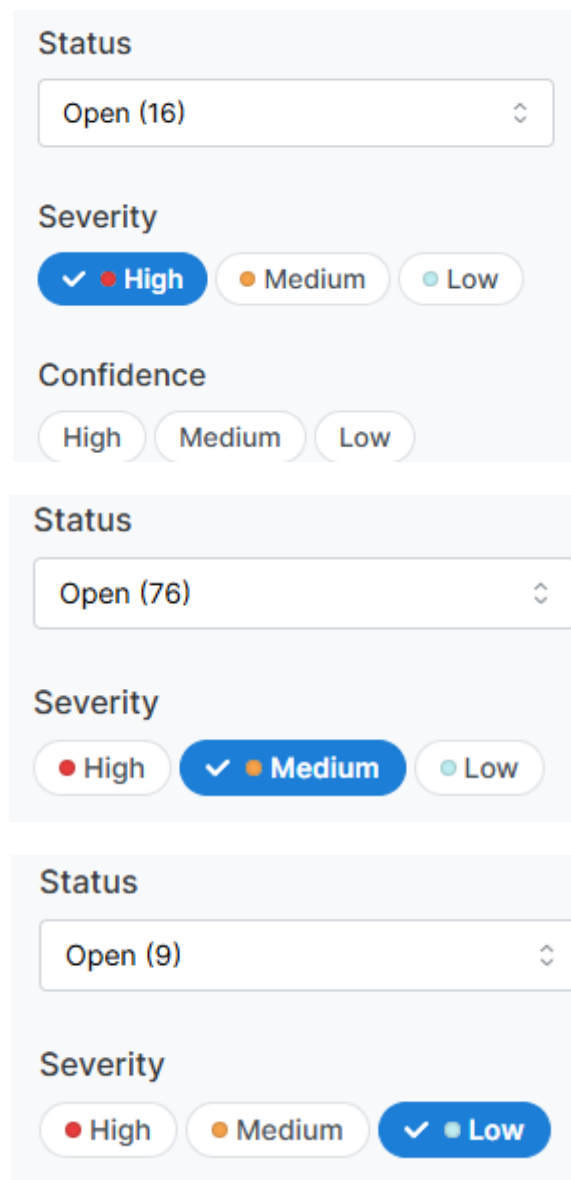
This block shows a detailed view of the 'pillow - Heap-based Buffer Overflow' vulnerability. It includes the vulnerability title, score (909), and a list of factors contributing to the scoring: Snyk: CVSS v3.1 9.6 - Critical Severity and NVD: CVSS v3.1 8.8 - High Severity. The 'Overview' section provides a detailed description of the vulnerability, stating that it is a PIL (Python Imaging Library) fork and is affected versions of this package are vulnerable to Heap-based Buffer Overflow when the 'ReadHuffmanCodes()' function is used. It also includes a 'Changelog' section with dates and descriptions of updates, such as '2023-09-12: Initial advisory publication' and '2024-01-28: Additional fix information'.

1.2.2. Semgrep

. The project also considered scan via Aikido SAST, however, the results of Aikido were unsatisfactory with only 47 issues found:



Therefore, Semgrep was chosen as second vulnerability scanner due to its maturity and reliance. As can be seen below, the Semgrep application found **101 vulnerable code** of which 16 were categorised as high, 76 medium and 9 low severity:



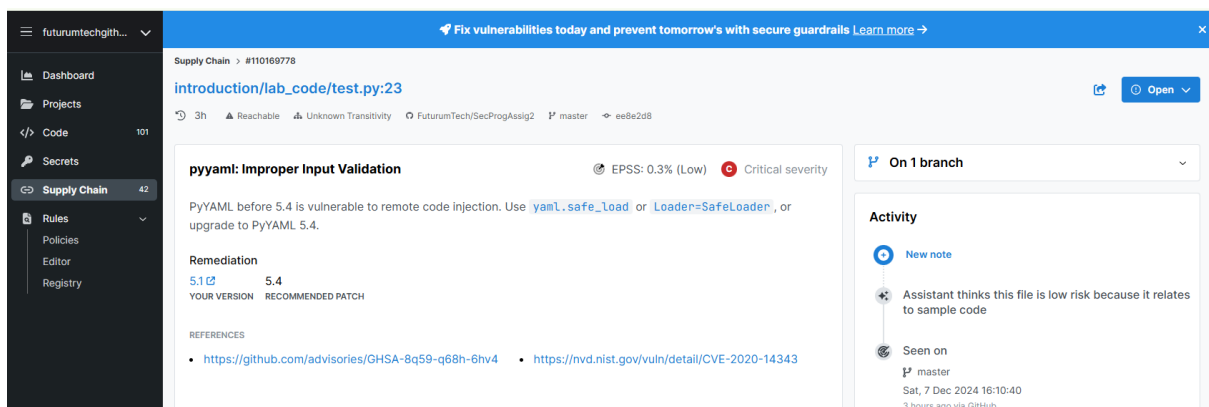
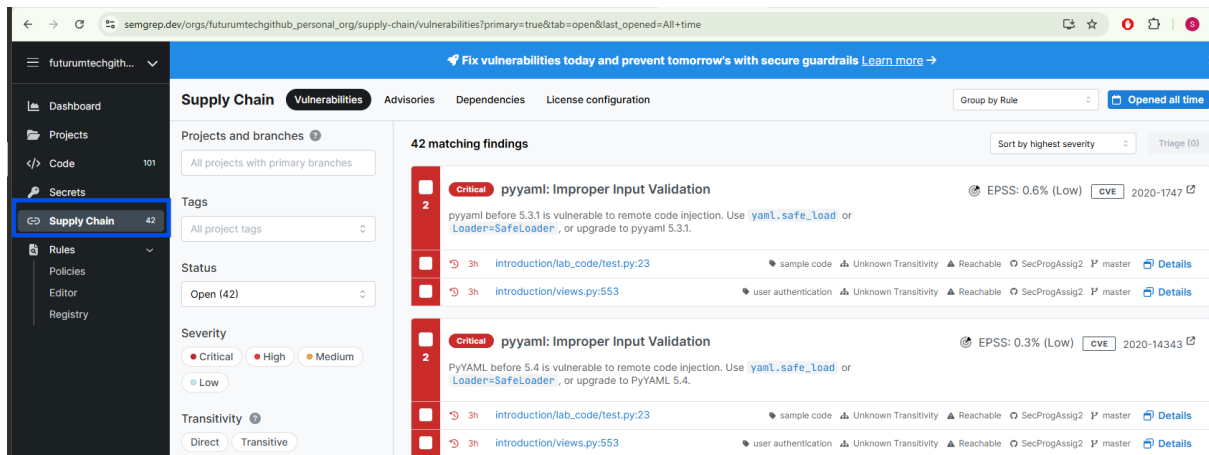
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The application has very intuitive interface and clearly shows what part of the application was deemed vulnerable and highlighted the relevant part of the code with some brief explanation of the vulnerability:

The screenshot displays the Semgrep web interface. The top section shows a list of 101 matching findings for the rule 'avoid-insecure-deserialization'. The findings are sorted by highest severity and include details such as the file path, line number, and a brief description of the vulnerability. The second section provides a detailed view of a specific finding, including the rule description, references, and the code snippet that triggered the finding. The code snippet shows a Python function that uses the 'pickle' library to load data from a request, which is highlighted in yellow. The third section shows the 'Pattern' and 'Metadata' tabs, which provide additional information about the finding, such as the pattern used to detect it and the metadata associated with it.

In addition, the application provided scanning of supply chain vulnerabilities and provided explanation and potential fixes mapped to CVE framework:

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There is also an option to run the application as Local Scanner which was conducted using version 1.99.0, following creating of virtual environment, installation and token authentication, the application produced extremely long json file and found 90 findings. However, due to lower count of vulnerabilities and less user friendly interface of .json file, it was more desirable to follow the web application interface. Below screenshots documents all the steps described above:

```
(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2]
$ source venvSempgrep/bin/activate

(venvSempgrep)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2]
$ python3 -m pip install semgrep
Collecting semgrep
```

```

Scan Summary
Some files were skipped or only partially analyzed.
Scan was limited to files tracked by git.
Partially scanned: 74 files only partially analyzed due to parsing or internal Semgrep errors

Ran 500 rules on 217 files: 87 findings.
Missed out on 907 pro rules since you aren't logged in!
Supercharge Semgrep OSS when you create a free account at https://sg.run/rules.

Too many findings? Try Semgrep Pro for more powerful queries and less noise.
See https://sg.run/false-positives.

(venvSemgrep)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2]
$ semgrep login
Login enables additional proprietary Semgrep Registry rules and running custom policies from Semgrep Cloud Platform.
Opening login at: https://semgrep.dev/login?cli-token=a60d6dbc-6748-4e56-a120-970b9980eea96&docker=False&gha=False
Once you've logged in, return here and you'll be ready to start using new Semgrep rules.
Saved login token
5fd5e4[REDACTED]

in /home/kali/.config/.semgrep/settings.yml.
Note: You can always generate more tokens at https://semgrep.dev/orgs/-/settings/tokens

```

```

(venvSemgrep)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2]
$ semgrep scan pygoat --json --json-output=semgrep.json

Semgrep CLI

Scanning 217 files (only git-tracked) with:
✓ Semgrep OSS
  ✓ Basic security coverage for first-party code vulnerabilities.
✓ Semgrep Code (SAST)
  ✓ Find and fix vulnerabilities in the code you write with advanced scanning and expert security rules.

```

```

Scan Summary
Some files were skipped or only partially analyzed.
Scan was limited to files tracked by git.
Partially scanned: 74 files only partially analyzed due to parsing or internal Semgrep errors

Ran 889 rules on 217 files: 90 findings.

Too many findings? Try Semgrep Pro for more powerful queries and less noise.
See https://sg.run/false-positives.

```

```

{
  "version": "1.99.0",
  "results": [
    {
      "check_id": "dockerfile.security.missing-user.missing-user",
      "path": "pygoat/Dockerfile",
      "start": {
        "line": 34,
        "col": 1,
        "offset": 666
      },
      "end": {
        "line": 34,
        "col": 75,
        "offset": 740
      },
      "extra": {
        "metavars": {
          "$..VARS": {
            "start": {
              "line": 34,
              "col": 5,
              "offset": 670
            },
            "end": {
              "line": 34,
              "col": 75,
              "offset": 740
            }
          },
          "abstract_content": "[\\\"gunicorn\\\" \\\"--bind\\\" \\\"0.0.0.0:8000\\\" \\\"--workers\\\" \\\"6\\\" \\\"pygoat.wsgi\\\"]"
        },
        "message": "By not specifying a USER, a program in the container may run as 'root'. This is a security hazard. If an attacker can control a process running as root, they may have control over the container. Ensure that the last USER in a Dockerfile is a USER other than 'root'.",
        "fix": "USER non-root\nCMD [\\\"gunicorn\\\", \\\"--bind\\\", \\\"0.0.0.0:8000\\\", \\\"--workers\\\", \\\"6\\\", \\\"pygoat.wsgi\\\"]",
        "metadata": {
          "cwe": [
            "CWE-269: Improper Privilege Management"
          ],
          "category": "security",
          "technology": [
            "dockerfile"
          ],
          "confidence": "MEDIUM",
          "owasp": [
            "A04:2021 - Insecure Design"
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}

```

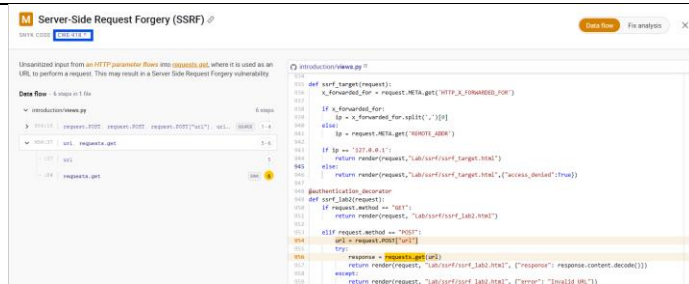
1.2.3 Compared results of a critical vulnerability

A single and critical code vulnerability was chosen to demonstrate different approaches of those two Vulnerability scanners. Both scanners detected Server Side Request Forgery (SSRF) and provided the following descriptions:

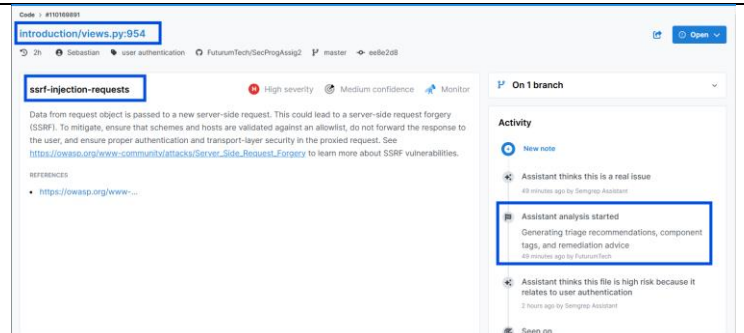
Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF)

Views.py line 954

Snyk



Semgrep





“Details

In a server-side request forgery attack, a malicious user supplies a URL (an external URL or a network IP address such as 127.0.0.1) to the application's back end. The server then accesses the URL and shares its results, which may include sensitive information such as AWS metadata, internal configuration information, or database contents with the attacker. Because the request comes from the back end, it bypasses access controls, potentially exposing information the user does not have sufficient privileges to receive. The attacker can then exploit this information to gain access, modify the web application, or demand a ransom payment.

Best practices for prevention

- Blacklists are problematic and attackers have numerous ways to bypass them; ideally, use a whitelist of all permitted domains and IP addresses.
- Use authentication even within your own network to prevent exploitation of server-side requests.
- Implement zero trust and sanitize and validate all URL and header data returning to the server from the user. Strip invalid or suspect characters, then inspect to be certain it contains a valid and expected value.
- Ideally, avoid sending server requests based on user-provided data altogether.
- Ensure that you are not sending raw response bodies from the server directly to the client. Only deliver expected responses.
- Disable suspect and exploitable URL schemas. Common culprits include obscure and little-used schemas such as file://, dict://, ftp://, and gopher://.”

introduction/views.py

```

945     else:
946         return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_target.html",
947                       {"access_denied": True})
948
949 @authentication_decorator
950 def ssrf_lab2(request):
951     if request.method == "GET":
952         return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_lab2.html")
953
954     elif request.method == "POST":
955         url = request.POST["url"]
956         try:
957             response = requests.get(url)
958             return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_lab2.html",
959                           {"response": response.content.decode()})
960         except:
961             return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_lab2.html",
962                           {"error": "Invalid URL"})

```

Your code & fix Example code

Assistant's suggested fix

Validate the URL scheme to ensure it is either http or https. You can use Python's urlparse module to parse the URL and check the scheme.

```
from urllib.parse import urlparse
```

```

parsed_url = urlparse(url)
if parsed_url.scheme not in ['http', 'https']:
    return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_lab2.html", {"error": "Invalid URL
scheme"})

```

Implement an allowlist of hostnames or IP addresses that are permitted to be accessed. Compare the parsed URL's hostname against this allowlist.

```

allowed_hosts = ['example.com', 'api.example.com']
if parsed_url.hostname not in allowed_hosts:

```

Customize fix

“Assistant's suggested fix

Validate the URL scheme to ensure it is either http or https. You can use Python's urlparse module to parse the URL and check the scheme.

```
from urllib.parse import urlparse
```

```
parsed_url = urlparse(url)
```

```
if parsed_url.scheme not in ['http', 'https']:
```

```

    return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_lab2.html", {"error":
    "Invalid URL scheme"})

```

Implement an allowlist of hostnames or IP addresses that are permitted to be accessed. Compare the parsed URL's hostname against this allowlist.

```
allowed_hosts = ['example.com', 'api.example.com']
```

```
if parsed_url.hostname not in allowed_hosts:
```

```

    return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_lab2.html", {"error": "Host
not allowed"})

```

Ensure that the response from the proxied request is not directly forwarded to the user. Instead, process the response data securely before rendering it.

	<pre> try: response = requests.get(url) # Process response.content securely processed_content = process_response_content(response.content) return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_lab2.html", {"response": processed_content}) except: return render(request, "Lab/ssrf/ssrf_lab2.html", {"error": "Invalid URL"}) Ensure that the proxied request uses proper authentication and transport-layer security. This might involve setting headers or using a secure session. session = requests.Session() session.headers.update({'Authorization': 'Bearer YOUR_TOKEN'}) response = session.get(url) Test the application to ensure that the SSRF vulnerability is mitigated and that the application behaves as expected with valid and invalid URLs. </pre>
--	--

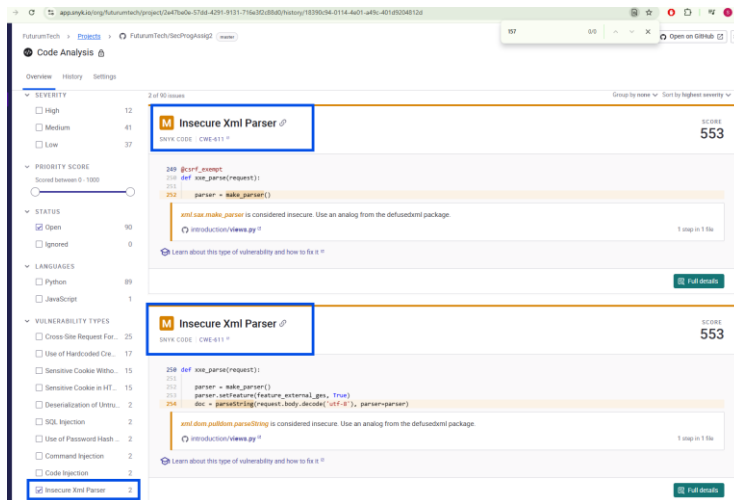
1.2.3. Scanner comparison summary

The findings from the combined analysis using Snyk and Semgrep showed complementary strengths concerning vulnerability detection. Both tools performs really well in identifying vulnerability points in third-party dependencies such as outdated packages where known exploits exist identifying not only CVE (as Semgrep) but Snyk also provided CWE and CVSS rating.

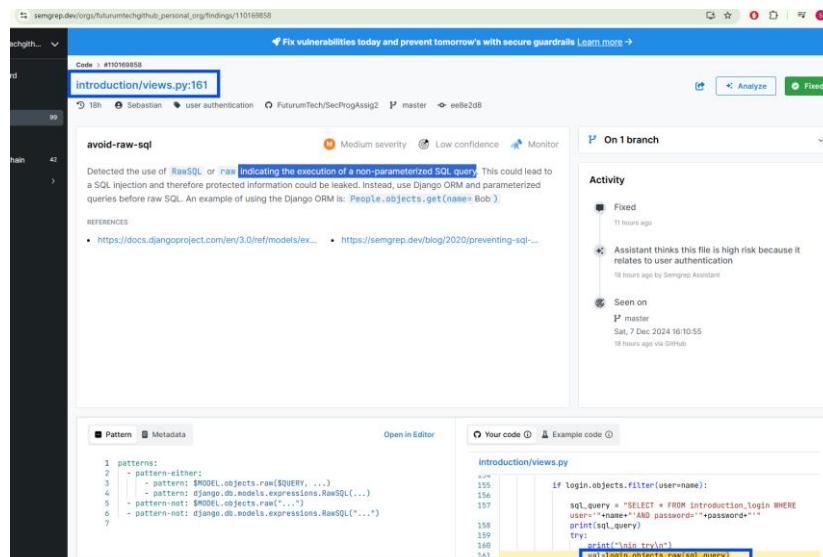
While **Snyk identified 90 vulnerabilities** in the source code, **Semgrep identified 11 more vulnerabilities** although **Snyk identified substantially more vulnerabilities in used dependencies and dockerfile**. Both scans identified a critical risk regarding Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF) however Semgrep provided more in-dept solution to fix the vulnerability by suggesting changes in the code while in turn, Snyk reduced its recommendation to general guidelines and advices.

However, **Snyk identified two XML vulnerabilities** while **Semgrep failed to recognise** this vulnerability at all:

Secure Programming Assignment



On the other hand, **Snyk failed to identify RawSQL vulnerability** indicating the execution of a non-parameterized SQL query while **Semgrep recognised it** at line 161:



To summarise, it appears that Semgrep will be better positioned for direct code analysis because of higher count of vulnerabilities found and better suggested fixes although the best approach would be to use both tools to monitor the same project as it was shown that the tools were able to detect a few different vulnerabilities. Overall, Semgrep proved to be more efficient for the detection of vulnerabilities in application code. This emphasises the complementary nature of both tools in ensuring comprehensive security coverage.

2. Section 2 Fix any two vulnerabilities in the code

2.1. Subprocess-injection

The top screenshot shows the Snyk Code Analysis interface for a project named 'FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2'. It displays a 'Command Injection' vulnerability with a score of 803. The vulnerability is located in the file 'introduction/views.py' at line 423. The code snippet shows a command being constructed from user input and passed to `subprocess.Popen()`. The description states: 'Unsanitized input from an HTTP parameter flows into `subprocess.Popen`, where it is used as a shell command. This may result in a Command Injection vulnerability.'

The bottom screenshot shows the Semgrep interface for the same vulnerability. It is categorized as 'subprocess-injection' with a 'High severity' rating. The description states: 'Detected user input entering a `subprocess` call unsafely. This could result in a command injection vulnerability. An attacker could use this vulnerability to execute arbitrary commands on the host, which allows them to download malware, scan sensitive data, or run any command they wish on the server. Do not let users choose the command to run. In general, prefer to use Python API versions of system commands. If you must use subprocess, use a dictionary to allowlist a set of commands.'

Both Snyk and Semgrep marked the above vulnerability as High severity which consist of: Unsensitised input from HTTP parameters flows into `subprocess.Popen` in functions like `cmd_lab` (line 423). It was categorised by Snyk as CWE-78: Improper Neutralization of Special Elements used in an OS Command ('OS Command Injection').

Suggested fix from SemGrep:

Your code & fix ⓘ
Data flow ⓘ
Example code ⓘ

Assistant's suggested fix

Avoid using `shell=True` in the `subprocess.Popen` call. This can be done by passing the command as a list of arguments instead of a single string.

Split the command string into a list of arguments. For example, change `command = "dig {}".format(domain)` to `command = ["dig", domain]`.

Pass the command list directly to `subprocess.Popen` without using `shell=True`.

Validate the `domain` input to ensure it contains only safe characters. You can use a regular expression to allow only valid domain names, such as `^[a-zA-Z0-9.-]+$.`

If the domain input is invalid, return an error message to the user instead of executing the command.

Customize fix

introduction/views.py

```

419         command = "dig {}".format(domain)
420
421         try:
422             # output=subprocess.check_output(command,shell=True,
423             #                               encoding="UTF-8")
424             process = subprocess.Popen(
425                 command,
426                 shell=True,
427                 stdout=subprocess.PIPE,
428                 stderr=subprocess.PIPE)
429             stdout, stderr = process.communicate()

```

The venerable code was comprised of the following function:

```

#Old Code
'''
@csrf_exempt
def cmd_lab(request):
    if request.user.is_authenticated:
        if(request.method=="POST"):
            domain=request.POST.get('domain')
            domain=domain.replace("https://www.", '')
            os=request.POST.get('os')
            print(os)
            if(os=='win'):
                command="nslookup {}".format(domain)
            else:
                command = "dig {}".format(domain)

            try:
                # output=subprocess.check_output(command,shell=True,encoding="UTF-8")
                process = subprocess.Popen(
                    command,
                    shell=True,
                    stdout=subprocess.PIPE,
                    stderr=subprocess.PIPE)
                stdout, stderr = process.communicate()
                data = stdout.decode('utf-8')
                stderr = stderr.decode('utf-8')
                # res = json.loads(data)
                # print("Stdout\n" + data)
                output = data + stderr
                print(data + stderr)
            except:
                output = "Something went wrong"
                return render(request, 'Lab/CMD/cmd_lab.html', {"output":output})
            print(output)
            return render(request, 'Lab/CMD/cmd_lab.html', {"output":output})
        else:
            return render(request, 'Lab/CMD/cmd_lab.html')
    else:
        return redirect('login')
'''

```

Key Improvements:

- Avoid *shell=True*: Use *subprocess.Popen* with a list of arguments to avoid shell interpretation.
- Input Validation: Use a regular expression to validate the domain to ensure it only contains valid characters for a domain name.
- Command Execution: Pass the command as a list of arguments to *subprocess.Popen*.

```
#FIX of Command Injection
@csrf_exempt
def cmd_lab(request):
    if request.user.is_authenticated:
        if request.method == "POST":
            domain = request.POST.get("domain", "").strip()
            os_type = request.POST.get("os", "").strip()

            # Validate domain to only allow valid domain names
            domain_pattern = r"^[a-zA-Z0-9.-]+$"
            if not re.match(domain_pattern, domain):
                output = "Invalid domain name."
                return render(request, 'Lab/CMD/cmd_lab.html', {"output": output})

            # Prepare command based on OS type
            if os_type == 'win':
                command = ["nslookup", domain]
            else:
                command = ["dig", domain]

            try:
                # Execute the command safely
                process = subprocess.Popen(
                    command,
                    stdout=subprocess.PIPE,
                    stderr=subprocess.PIPE
                )
                stdout, stderr = process.communicate()
                output = stdout.decode('utf-8') + stderr.decode('utf-8')
            except Exception as e:
                output = f"Error executing command: {str(e)}"
                return render(request, 'Lab/CMD/cmd_lab.html', {"output": output})

            return render(request, 'Lab/CMD/cmd_lab.html', {"output": output})
        else:
            return render(request, 'Lab/CMD/cmd_lab.html')
    else:
        return redirect('login')
```

Secure Programming Assignment

Scan results confirming that the fix decreased the number of vulnerabilities by 1:

Snyk:

The screenshot shows the Snyk Code Analysis interface. At the top, it indicates the project is 'FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2' on the 'master' branch, with a snapshot taken on 'Sat 7th Dec 2024'. The analysis summary shows '61 analyzed files (28%)' and a 'Repo breakdown'. The left sidebar shows filters for 'SEVERITY' (High: 11, Medium: 41, Low: 37) and 'STATUS' (Open: 89, Ignored: 0). The main panel displays a 'SQL Injection' vulnerability (SNYK CODE | CWE-89) with a 'SCORE 803'. The vulnerability description states: 'Unsanitized input from an HTTP parameter flows into django.contrib.auth.login.objects.raw, where it is used in an SQL query. This may result in an SQL Injection vulnerability.' The code snippet shows a SQL query construction in Python.

Semgrep:

The screenshot shows the Semgrep Code analysis interface. The left sidebar shows the 'Code' tab selected. The main panel displays '100 matching findings' for the rule 'avoid-insecure-deserialization'. The findings list includes two entries from 'introduction/views.py' at lines 213 and 553, both related to 'user authentication'. The interface also shows filters for 'Projects and branches', 'Tags', and 'Status' (Open: 100).

The application run after fixes without any issues:

```
(venv)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignmnet 2/pygoat]
$ python3 manage.py runserver
Watching for file changes with StatReloader
Performing system checks...

System check identified no issues (0 silenced).
December 07, 2024 - 22:07:13
Django version 4.1.7, using settings 'pygoat.settings'
Starting development server at http://127.0.0.1:8000/
Quit the server with CONTROL-C.
```

2.1. SQL Injection

The screenshot shows the Snyk Code Analysis interface for a project named 'FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2'. The main view displays a list of issues, with 89 issues found. The 'SQL Injection' issue is highlighted, showing a score of 803. The code snippet for the vulnerability is as follows:

```
157 sql_query = "SELECT * FROM introduction_login WHERE user='"+name+"'AND password='"+password+"'"
158 print(sql_query)
159 try:
160     print("\nin try\n")
161     val=login.objects.raw(sql_query)
```

The description of the issue states: 'Unsanitized input from an HTTP parameter flows into django.contrib.auth.login.objects.raw, where it is used in an SQL query. This may result in an SQL Injection vulnerability.'

The screenshot shows the Semgrep dev interface for the same project. The main view displays the file 'introduction/views.py:157' and the vulnerability details. The vulnerability is titled 'tainted-sql-string' with a severity of 'High severity'. The description states: 'Detected user input used to manually construct a SQL string. This is usually bad practice because manual construction could accidentally result in a SQL injection. An attacker could use a SQL injection to steal or modify contents of the database. Instead, use a parameterized query which is available by default in most database engines. Alternatively, consider using the Django object-relational mappers (ORM) instead of raw SQL queries.'

Both Snyk and Semgrep marked the above vulnerability as High severity which consist of: Unsanitized input from an HTTP parameter flows into django.contrib.auth.login.objects.raw, where it is used in an SQL query and usage manually construct a SQL string. This may result in an SQL Injection vulnerability (line 157 and 161). Snyk assigned it CWE-89: Improper Neutralization of Special Elements used in an SQL Command ('SQL Injection')

Suggested fix from Semgrep:

🔄 Your code & fix ⓘ
🔍 Data flow ⓘ
📄 Example code ⓘ

Assistant's suggested fix


Replace the manual SQL string construction with a parameterized query to prevent SQL injection.

Use Django's ORM to filter the login objects. Replace the SQL query with `val = login.objects.filter(user=name, password=password)`.

Remove the `sql_query` variable and the `raw` method call, as they are no longer needed.

Check if `val` exists and proceed with the logic to render the appropriate template based on the query result.

This change uses Django's ORM to safely query the database, which automatically handles parameterization and prevents SQL injection vulnerabilities.



The vulnerable code was comprised of the following function:

```
#Old code
...
def sql_lab(request):
    if request.user.is_authenticated:
        name=request.POST.get('name')
        password=request.POST.get('pass')

        if name:
            if login.objects.filter(user=name):
                sql_query = "SELECT * FROM introduction_login WHERE user='"+
                +name+"' AND password='"+password+"'"
                print(sql_query)
                try:
                    print("\nin try\n")
                    val=login.objects.raw(sql_query)
                except:
                    print("\nin except\n")
                    return render(
                        request,
                        'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html',
                        {
                            "wrongpass":password,
                            "sql_error":sql_query
                        })

                if val:
                    user=val[0].user
                    return render(request, 'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html',
                        {"user1":user})
                else:
                    return render(
                        request,
                        'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html',
                        {
                            "wrongpass":password,
                            "sql_error":sql_query
                        })
            else:
                return render(request, 'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html',{"no": "User
                not found"})
        else:
            return render(request, 'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html')
    else:
        return redirect('login')
```

Key Improvements:

- Raw SQL (SELECT * FROM introduction_login WHERE user='{name}' AND password='{password}') is replaced with Django ORM's filter method.
- Query: login.objects.filter(user=name, password=password) ensures parameterized queries, protecting against SQL injection.
- Used .first() to fetch the first result or None safely, avoiding list indexing issues.
- Added a try-except block to catch database-related exceptions gracefully.
- The variable sql_query is no longer needed because the query construction is handled by the ORM.
- Cleaned up the logic to handle cases when no name is provided or when the user is not found.

```
#Fix
def sql_lab(request):
    if request.user.is_authenticated:
        name = request.POST.get('name')
        password = request.POST.get('pass')

        if name:
            try:
                # Use Django's ORM to safely query the database
                user = login.objects.filter(user=name, password=password).first()

                if user:
                    # User exists, proceed with rendering success response
                    return render(request, 'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html', {"user1": user.user})
                else:
                    # No matching user or incorrect password
                    return render(request, 'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html', {"wrongpass": password, "error": "Invalid username or password."})
            except Exception as e:
                # Handle unexpected errors gracefully
                return render(request, 'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html', {"error": f"Database query failed: {str(e)}"})
        else:
            # No name provided in the POST request
            return render(request, 'Lab/SQL/sql_lab.html')
    else:
        return redirect('login')
```


Secure Programming Assignment

Scan results confirming that the fix decreased the number of vulnerabilities by 1:

Snyk:

The screenshot shows the Snyk Code Analysis interface for a project named 'FuturumTech/SecProgAssig2'. The 'Issues' tab is selected, showing 88 of 88 issues. A specific issue titled 'Use of Hardcoded Cryptographic Key' is highlighted, with a score of 803. The issue is categorized as 'High' severity and 'Open' status. The code snippet shows a JWT token being decoded using a hardcoded key 'H5256'. The interface also displays a sidebar with filters for severity, priority score, and status.

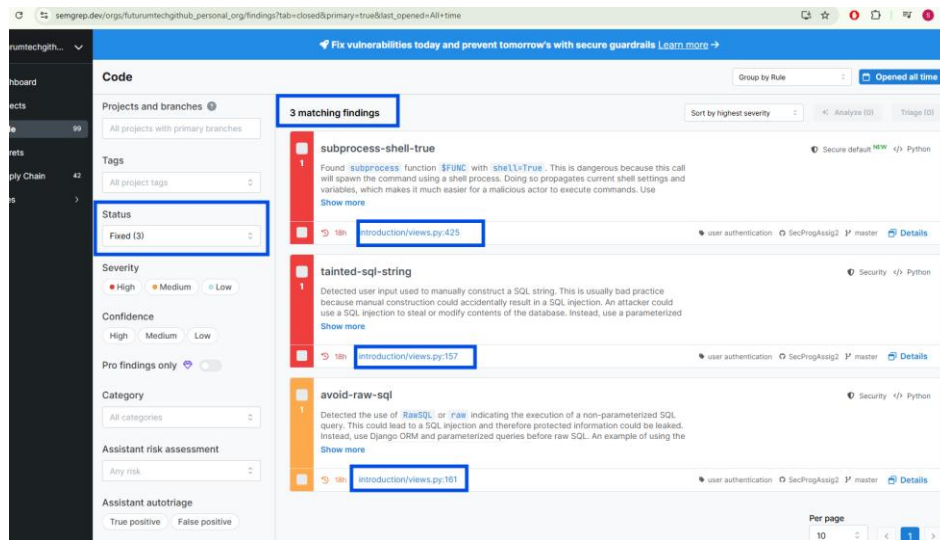
The screenshot shows the 'History' tab of the Snyk Code Analysis interface. It displays a timeline of scans performed by Snyk.io. The most recent scan, 14 hours ago, shows 88 known issues. The interface includes a table with columns for severity (0, C, 10, H, 41, M, 37, L) and a summary of the scan results.

Semgrep:

The screenshot shows the Semgrep interface with a list of matching findings. The 'Code' tab is selected, showing 99 matching findings. A specific finding titled 'detected-jwt-token' is highlighted, showing a JWT token detected in the code. The interface includes a sidebar with filters for status (Open 99) and severity (High, Medium, Low).

Secure Programming Assignment

Semgrep correctly identified fixes of two SQL injections:



The application run after fixes without any issues:

```
(venv)-(kali@kali)-[~/Documents/Assignment 2/pygoat]
$ python3 manage.py runserver
Watching for file changes with StatReloader
Performing system checks ...

System check identified no issues (0 silenced).
December 07, 2024 - 23:10:00
Django version 4.1.7, using settings 'pygoat.settings'
Starting development server at http://127.0.0.1:8000/
Quit the server with CONTROL-C.
```