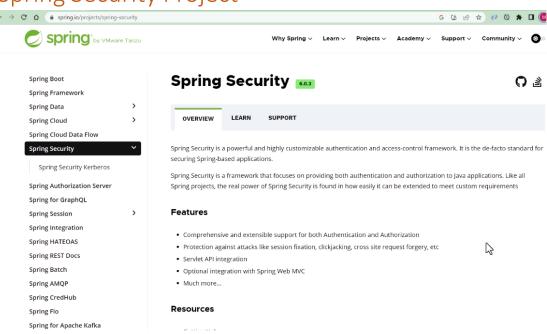
Spring Security

1

Spring Security Project



Spring Security

- Spring Security is a powerful and highly customizable authentication and access-control framework. It is the de-facto standard for securing Springbased applications.
- Below is the maven dependency that we can add to implement security using Spring Security project in any of the SpringBoot projects,



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Authentication & Authorization



Spring Security Default Behavior

- If spring-boot-starter-security is added to the application, the login form is automatically added
 - All requests redirect to the login form.
 - Once we log in, Spring will not ask for the credentials for subsequent requests.

If we haven't configured any users: The username is 'user', and the password is displayed in the console. Using generated security password: 47673d2f-90f9-4469-9935-da13389eb668	This form is coming from the spring	Please sign in
The username is 'user', and the password is displayed in the console.	security framework.	
Using generated security password: 47673d2f-90f9-4469-9935-da13389eb668	The username is 'user', and the password	Sign in

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Configure Custom Credentials

• Use 'application.properties':



• This approach is not suitable for production applications.

Default Security Configurations in Spring Security

By default, Spring Security framework protects all the paths present inside the web application. This behaviour is due to the code present inside the method defaultSecurityFilterChain(HttpSecurity http) of class SpringBootWebSecurityConfiguration

```
@Bean A Bean of SecurityFilterChain will be created.

@Order(SecurityProperties.BASIC_AUTH_ORDER)

SecurityFilterChain defaultSecurityFilterChain(HttpSecurity http) throws Exception {
   http.authorizeHttpRequests().anyRequest().authenticated();
   http.formLogin();
   http.httpBasic();
   return http.build();
}

All the types of paths have to be secured.

**Teturn http.build();
}
```

- This is the piece of code inside the Spring Security that will protect all the paths inside our web application!
 - If the user specifies their own SecurityFilterChain bean, this will back-off completely and the users should specify all the bits that they want to configure as part of the custom security configuration.

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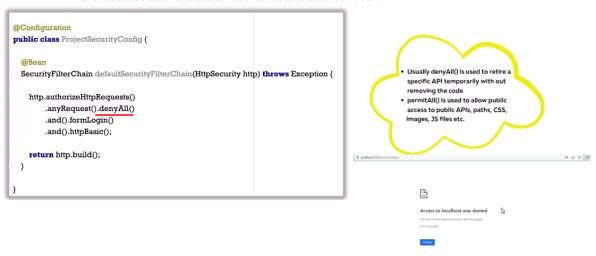
Configure permitAll() with Spring Security

- We can customize the security configuration.
 - We need to create a bean of the type SecurityFilterChain.
 - E.g. if we want to allow full/public access to all the pages without any security.

Form Login provides support for username and password being provided through an html form
HTTP Basic Auth uses an HTTP header in order to provide the username and password when making a request to a server.

Configure denyAll() with Spring Security

- E.g. if we want to deny any request that is coming into a web application:
 - In this case the login page will be displayed, but even if we add valid credentials, the access will be denied (*Error code* **403**).
 - This is because authentication comes before authorization!



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Configure Spring Security at the API path level

```
SecurityFilterChain defaultSecurityFilterChain(HttpSecurity http) throws Exception {
    http.authorizeHttpRequests()
                                                           Paths to /home, /holidays,
            .requestMatchers("/home").permitAll()
            .requestMatchers("/holidays").permitAll()
                                                           /contact... will be allowed.
            .requestMatchers("/contact").permitAll()
            .requestMatchers("/saveMsg").permitAll()
                                                           Path e.g. /holidays/all will NOT be
            .requestMatchers("/courses").authenticated()
            .requestMatchers("/about").permitAll()
            .requestMatchers("/assets/**").permitAll()
            .and().formLogin()
                                      All the paths that start with /assets will be
            .and().httpBasic();
                                      allowed.
    return http.build();
```

If e.g. inside the **assets** folder, we have all our javascript, css, images, etc. files, we have to permit all access to all these resources, otherwise our content will not look / behave correctly.

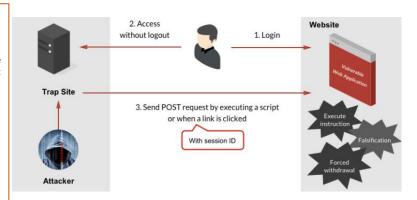
CSRF Attack

- CSRF (Cross-Site Request Forgery) is a type of security attack where a malicious website or application tricks a user's browser into making unintended requests to a different website where the user is authenticated.
 - This can lead to unauthorized actions being performed on the user's behalf without their consent.

1.User Authentication: The user logs into a legitimate website (e.g., an online banking site) and receives an authentication token (usually in the form of a cookie or session ID) that is stored in their browser.

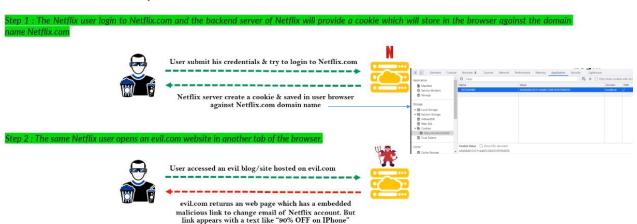
2.Malicious Website: The user visits a malicious website that contains a hidden form or script designed to exploit the user's authenticated session on the legitimate website.

3.Hidden Form Submission: The malicious website automatically submits a form or sends a request to the legitimate website in the background, using the user's stored authentication token without their knowledge.
4.Unintended Action: Since the request contains the user's authentication token, the legitimate website interprets it as a valid request from the authenticated user and performs the action specified by the attacker (e.g., transferring funds, changing account settings).



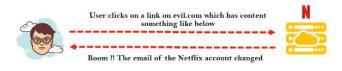
11

CSRF - Example



CSRF – Example...

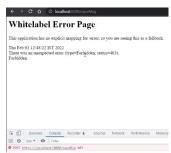
Step 3 : User tempted and clicked on the malicious link which makes a request to Netflix.com. And since the login cookie already present in the same browser and the request to change email is being made to the same domain Netflix.com, the backend server of Netflix.com can't differentiate from where the request came. So here the evil.com forged the request as if it is coming from a Netflix.com UI page.



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How Spring Security blocks any requests that update data

• If we don't handle CSRF in the application, in the way Spring Security is expecting, then by default all POST/PUT requests will be blocked.



How to disable if there is no security threat?

```
@Bean
SecurityFilterChain defaultSecurityFilterChain(HttpSecurity http) throws Exception {

   http.csrf().disable()
        .authorizeHttpRequests()
        .requestMatchers("","/","/home").permitAll()
        .requestMatchers("/holidays/**").permitAll()
        .requestMatchers("/contact").permitAll()
```

Solution to CSRF

- Can we remove the use of cookies?
 - No, because otherwise, we will need to ask the user for the credentials before any action.
- To defeat a CSRF attack, applications need a way to determine if the HTTP request is legitimately generated via the application's user interface. This can be achieved through a CSRF token.
 - CSRF token: is a secure random token that is used to prevent CSRF attacks. The token
 needs to be unique per user session and should be of large random value to make it
 difficult to guess.
 - This token will never be stored as a cookie in the browser... it will be inserted as a hidden parameter inside all the forms.

```
▼<div class="col-md-6 login-center">

▼<form action="/login" method="post" class="signin-form">

<input type="hidden" name="_csrf" value="d2033298-7437-40e5-b9ff-0255b2d7da09" == $0

▶ <div class="col-md-8 login-center input-grid$">...</div>

▶ <div class="col-md-8 login-center text-start">...</div>
</form>

</div>
```

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Solution to CSRF - Example

Step 1 : The Netflix user login to Netflix.com and the backend server of Netflix will provide a cookie which will store in the browser against the domain name Netflix.com along with a randomly generated unique CSRF token for this particular user session. CSRF token is inserted within hidden parameters of HTML forms to avoid exposure to session cookies.



Step 2 : The same Netflix user opens an evil.com website in another tab of the browser.



Solution to CSRF – Example...

Step 3 : User tempted and clicked on the malicious link which makes a request to Netflix.com. And since the login cookie already present in the same browser and the request to change email is being made to the same domain Netflix.com. This time the Netflix.com backend server expects CSRF token along with the cookie. The CSRF token must be same as initial value generated during login operation



The CSRF token will be used by the application server to verify the legitimacy of the end-user request if it is coming from the same App UI or not. The application server rejects the request if the CSRF token fails to match the test.

The CSRF token is saved at the session inside the <u>server</u>. The UI application should send the CSRF token as a hidden field for every request!

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Summary

- ✓ By default, Spring Security enables CSRF fix for all the HTTP methods which results in data change like POST, DELETE etc. But not for GET.
- ✓ Using Spring Security configurations we can disable the CSRF protection for complete application or for only few paths based on our requirements like below.
 - http.csrf((csrf) -> csrf.disable())
 - http.csrf((csrf) -> csrf.ignoringRequestMatchers("/saveMsg"))
- ✓ Thymeleaf has great integration & support with Spring Security to generate a CSRF token. We just need to add the below code in login html form code and Thymeleaf will automatically appends the CSRF token for the remaining pages/forms inside the web application,

<input type="hidden" th:name="\${_csrf.parameterName}" th:value="\${_csrf.token}" />

How to configure multiple users?

- · Spring Security provide support for username/password based authentication based on the users stored in application memory.
- · Like mentioned below, we can configure any number of users & their roles, passwords using in-memory authentication,



We should store the credentials in a database or other storage system.

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Spring Security AuthenticationProvider

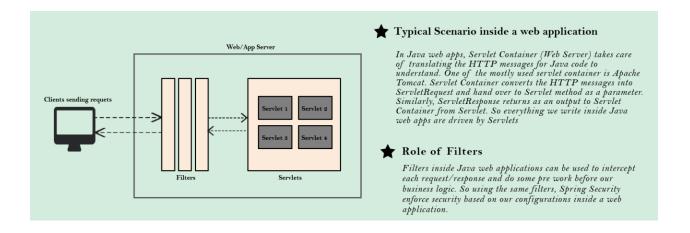
- Spring Security allows us to write our custom logic to authenticate a user based on our requirements by implementing the AuthenticationProvider interface.
 - This allows additional flexibility compared to the standard scenario using a simple UserDetailsService
- An AuthenticationProvider, processes an Authentication request, and a fully authenticated object with full credentials is returned.

```
package org.springframework.security.authentication;

import ...

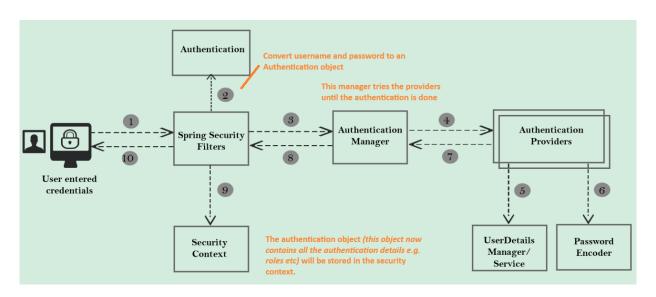
public interface AuthenticationProvider {
    Authentication authenticate(Authentication authentication) throws AuthenticationException;
    boolean supports(Class<?> authentication);
}
```

Servlets and Filters



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Spring Security Internal Flow



Spring Security Internal Flow

★ Spring Security Filters

A series of Spring Security filters intercept each request & work together to identify if Authentication is required or not. If authentication is required, accordingly navigate the user to login page or use the existing details stored during initial authentication.

★ Authentication

Filters like UsernamePasswordAuthenticationFilter will extract username/password from HTTP request & prepare Authentication type object.
Because Authentication is the core standard of storing authenticated user details insdie Spring Security framework.

★ AuthenticationManager

Once received request from filter, it delegates the validating of the user details to the authentication providers available. Since there can be multiple providers inside an app, it is the responsibility of the Authentication Manager to manage all the authentication providers available.

★ AuthenticationProvider

AuthenticationProviders has all the core logic of validating user details for authentication.

★ UserDetailsManager/UserDetailsService

UserDetailsManager/UserDetailsService helps in retrieving, creating, updating, deleting the User Details from the DB/storage systems.

★ PasswordEncoder

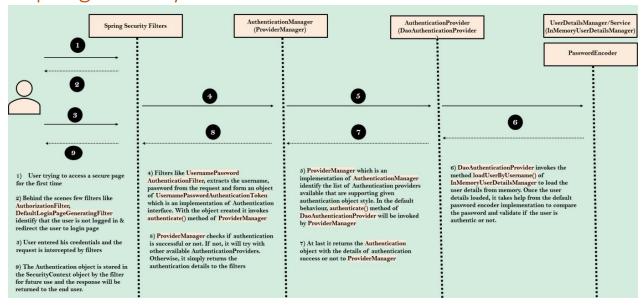
Service interface that helps in encoding & hashing passwords. Otherwise we may have to live with plain text passwords &

★ SecurityContext

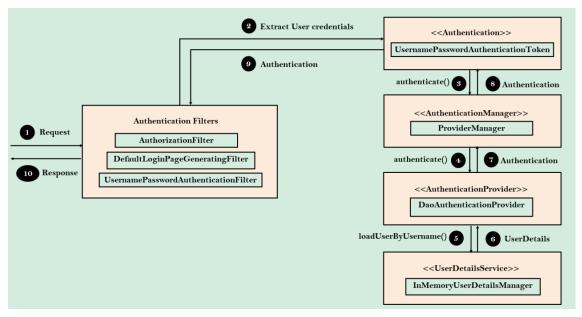
Once the request has been authenticated, the Authentication will usually be stored in a thread-local SecurityContext managed by the SecurityContextHolder. This helps during the upcoming requests from the same user.

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Spring Security Internal Flow – Default Behavior



Spring Security Internal Flow – Default Behavior



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UsernamePasswordAuthenticationFilter

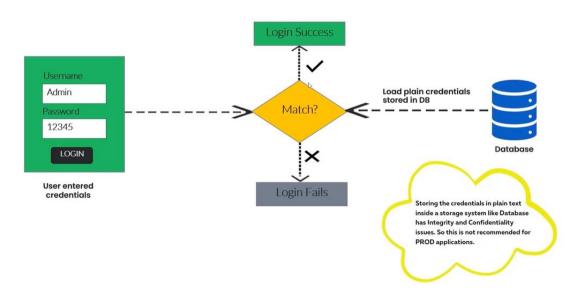
When you configure form-based login using the .formLogin() method in your Spring Security configuration, it effectively instructs Spring Security to use the UsernamePasswordAuthenticationFilter for handling login requests.

The .formLogin() method sets up the UsernamePasswordAuthenticationFilter as the filter responsible for processing login requests. When a user submits a login form, Spring Security's filter chain intercepts the request, and the UsernamePasswordAuthenticationFilter processes it. This filter extracts the username and password from the request parameters, creates an Authentication object, and then delegates the authentication process to the configured AuthenticationProvider.

Spring Security AuthenticationProvider - Implementation

```
public class EazySchoolUsernamePwdAuthenticationProvider
        implements AuthenticationProvider
    private PersonRepository personRepository;
    public Authentication authenticate(Authentication authentication)
                                                                                              Credentials (email, pwd) that the
            throws AuthenticationException {
                                                                                             user submitted from the login form
        String email = authentication.getName();
        String pwd = authentication.getCredentials().toString();
        Person person = personRepository.readByEmail(email); .
                                                                                     Read person data form the database
        if(null != person && person.getPersonId()>0 &&
               pwd.equals(person.getPwd())){
            return new UsernamePasswordAuthenticationToken(
                   person.getName(), credentials: null, getGrantedAuthorities(person.getRoles()));
        }else{
            throw new BadCredentialsException("Invalid credentials!"):
    1 usage
                                                                                                           Spring Security will always maintain
    private List<GrantedAuthority> getGrantedAuthorities(Roles roles) {
        List<GrantedAuthority> grantedAuthorities = new ArrayList<>();
                                                                                                              the roles with the prefix ROLE
        grantedAuthorities.add(new SimpleGrantedAuthority( role "ROLE_"+roles.getRoleName()));
        return grantedAuthorities;
public boolean supports(Class<?> authentication) {
        return authentication.equals(UsernamePasswordAuthenticationToken.class):
}
```

Plain text passwords - NOT secure

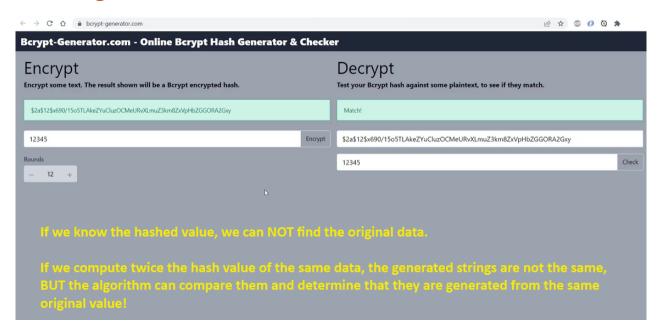


Password Management

• Options to store passwords: Encryption Encoding Hashing ✓ Encoding is defined as the process of ✓ Encryption is defined as the process In hashing, data is converted to the converting data from one form to of transforming data in such a way hash value using some hashing another and has nothing to do with that guarantees confidentiality. function. cryptography. To achieve confidentiality, encryption Data once hashed is non-reversible. ✓ It involves no secret and completely requires the use of a secret which, in One cannot determine the original reversible. cryptographic terms, we call a "key". data from a hash value generated. ✓ Encoding can't be used for securing Encryption can be reversible by using (✓ Given some arbitrary data along with data. Below are the various publicly decryption with the help of the the output of a hashing algorithm, one available algorithms used for "key". As long as the "key" is can verify whether this data matches encoding. confidential, encryption can be the original input data without considered as secured. needing to see the original data Ex: ASCII, BASE64, UNICODE

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Hashing



Spring Security - Hashing

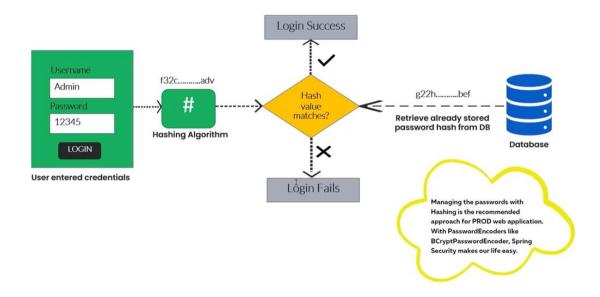
- Spring Security provides support for password hashing through its PasswordEncoder interface and various implementations.
- PasswordEncoder Interface:
 - The PasswordEncoder interface defines a contract for encoding (hashing) and matching (verifying) passwords.
 - It includes two main methods: encode() for hashing a password and matches() for verifying if a raw password matches a hashed password.
- Spring Security provides several implementations of the PasswordEncoder interface, each using a different hashing algorithm:
 - BCryptPasswordEncoder: Uses the bcrypt password hashing algorithm, which is considered secure and resistant to brute-force attacks.
 - StandardPasswordEncoder: Uses a custom algorithm based on SHA-256 hashing with a salt.
 - NoOpPasswordEncoder: No operation password encoder (for testing purposes only; should not be used in production).
 - MessageDigestPasswordEncoder: Uses a Message Digest algorithm (e.g., MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256) for password hashing.
 - **DelegatingPasswordEncoder**: A delegating password encoder that supports multiple hash algorithms and can upgrade passwords to a stronger hash over time.

• ...



```
@Override
public String encode(CharSequence rawPassword) {
   if (rawPassword == null) {
       throw new IllegalArgumentException("rawPassword cannot be null");
                                                                      BCryptPasswordEncoder class
   String salt = getSalt();
   return BCrypt.hashpw(rawPassword.toString(), salt);
private String getSalt() {
   if (this.random != null) {
       return BCrypt.gensalt(this.version.getVersion(), this.strength, this.random);
   return BCrypt.gensalt(this.version.getVersion(), this.strength);
@Override
public boolean matches(CharSequence rawPassword, String encodedPassword) {
   if (rawPassword == null) {
       throw new IllegalArgumentException("rawPassword cannot be null");
   if (encodedPassword == null || encodedPassword.length() == 0) {
       this.logger.warn("Empty encoded password");
       return false;
   if (!this.BCRYPT_PATTERN.matcher(encodedPassword).matches()) {
       this.logger.warn("Encoded password does not look like BCrypt");
   return BCrypt.checkpw(rawPassword.toString(), encodedPassword);
```

How Passwords are Validated with Hashing



JWT Tokens

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Role of Tokens

- A Token can be a plain string of format universally unique identifier (UUID) or it can be of type JSON (JWT) usually that get generated when the user authenticated for the first time.
 - JSESSIONID is the default token generated by Spring Security. It makes it possible not to share the credentials to the backend every time. The JSESSIONID is very simple. Disadvantages:
 - It doesn't have any user data (it is a randomly generated value).
 - It is saved as a cookie.
- In every request to a restricted resource, the client sends the access token in the query string or Authorization header. The server then validates the token and, if it is valid, returns the secure resource to the client.



Advantages of Tokens

Token helps us not to share the credentials for every request. It is a security risk to send credentials over the network frequently.

Tokens can be invalidated during any suspicious activities without invalidating the user credentials.

Tokens can be created with a short life span.

Tokens can be used to store the user related information like roles/authorities etc.

Reusability - We can have many separate servers, running on multiple platforms and domains, reusing the same token for authenticating the user.

Stateless, easier to scale. The token contains all the information to identify the user, eliminating the need for the session state. If we use a load balancer, we can pass the user to any server, instead of being bound to the same server we logged in on.

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JWT Tokens

JWT means JSON Web Token. It is a token implementation which will be in the JSON format and designed to use for the web requests.

JWT is the most common and favorite token type that many systems use these days due to its special features and advantages.

JWT tokens can be used both in the scenarios of Authorization/Authentication along with Information exchange which means you can share certain user related data in the token itself which will reduce the burden of maintaining such details in the sessions on the server side.

A JWT token has 3 parts each separated by a period(.) Below is a sample JWT token,

<mark>eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCl6IkpXVCJ9.eyJzdWIiOiIxMjM0NTY3ODkwIiwibmFtZSI6IkpvaG4gRG9lIi</mark> wiaWF0IjoxNTE2MjM5MDIyf<mark>Q</mark>.SflKxwRJSMeKKF2QT4fwpMeJf36POk6yJV_adQssw5c

- 1. Header
- 2. Payload
- 3. Signature (Optional)

JWT Tokens

Inside the JWT header, we store metadata/info related to the token. If I chose to sign the token, the header contains the name of the algorithm that generates the signature.

```
{
    "alg": "HS256",
    "typ": "JWT"
}

Base64 Encoded
eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9
```

In the body, we can store details related to user, roles etc. which can be used later for AuthN and AuthZ. Though there is no such limitation what we can send and how much we can send in the body, but we should put our best efforts to keep it as light as possible.

```
{
    "sub": "1234567890",
    "name": "John Doe",
    "iat": 1516239022
}

Base64 Encoded
vaG4gRG9lIiwiaWF0IjoxNTE2MjM5MDIyfQ
vaG4gRG9lIiwiaWF0IjoxNTE2MjM5MDIyfQ
```

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JWT Tokens - Signature

The last part of the token is the digital signature. This part can be optional if the party that you share the JWT token is internal and that someone who you can trust but not open in the web.

But if you are sharing this token to the client applications which will be used by all the users in the open web then we need to make sure that no one changed the header and body values like Authorities, username etc.

To make sure that no one tampered the data on the network, we can send the signature of the content when initially the token is generated. To create the signature part you have to take the encoded header, the encoded payload, a secret, the algorithm specified in the header, and sign that.

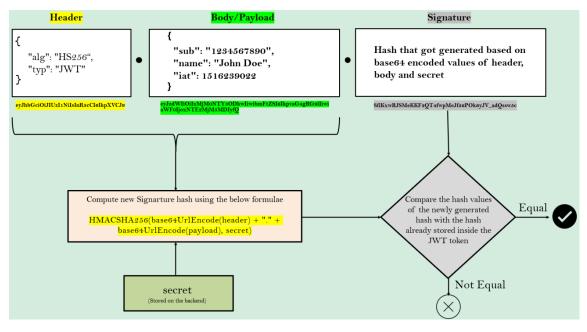
For example if you want to use the HMAC SHA256 algorithm, the signature will be created in the following way:

Only the backend knows the Secret

HMACSHA256(base64UrlEncode(header) + "." + base64UrlEncode(payload), secret)

The signature is used to verify the message wasn't changed along the way, and, in the case of tokens signed with a private key, it can also verify that the sender of the JWT is who it says it is.

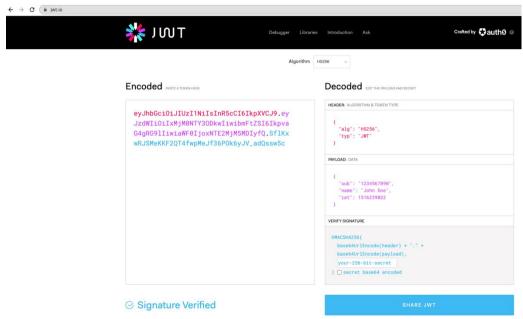
Validation of JWT Tokens



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JWT Tokens

• If you want to try out JWT, you can use jwt.io debugger to decode, verify and generate JWTs.



Use JWT tokens

1. Add dependencies:

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>io.jsonwebtoken</groupId>
  <artifactId>jwt-api</artifactId>
  <version>0.11.5</version>
  <dependency>
  <dependency>
  <groupId>io.jsonwebtoken</groupId>
  <artifactId>jwt-impl</artifactId>
  <version>0.11.5</version>
  <scope>runtime</scope>
  <dependency>
  <groupId>io.jsonwebtoken</groupId>
  <artifactId>jwt-impl</artifactId>
  <version>0.11.5</version>
  <dependency>
  <dependency>
  <groupId>io.jsonwebtoken</groupId>
  <artifactId>jwt-jackson</artifactId>
  <version>0.11.5</version>
  <scope>runtime</scope>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
  <scope>runtime</scope>
  </dependency>
  </dependency>
```

2. Change session creation policy:

@Bean Tell Spring Security to not generate the JSESSIONID.
SecurityFilterChain defaultSecurityFilterChain(HttpSecurity http) throws Exception {

http.sessionManagement().sessionCreationPolicy(SessionCreationPolicy.STATELESS).and()

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Create a new Filter to generate the JWT Token

```
public class [WTTokenGeneratorFilter extends OncePerRequestFilter {
  @Override
  protected void doFilterInternal(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response, FilterChain filterChain)
      throws ServletException, IOException {
    Authentication authentication = SecurityContextHolder.getContext().getAuthentication();
    if (null != authentication) {
      SecretKey key = Keys.hmacShaKeyFor(SecurityConstants.JWT_KEY.getBytes(StandardCharsets.UTF_8));
      String | = Jwts.builder().setIssuer("Eazy Bank").setSubject("JWT Token")
          .claim("username", authentication.getName())
          .claim("authorities", populateAuthorities(authentication.getAuthorities()))
          .setIssuedAt(new Date())
          .setExpiration(new Date((new Date()).getTime() + 30000000))
          .signWith(key).compact();
      response.setHeader(SecurityConstants.JWIT_HEADER, jwt);
    filterChain.doFilter(request, response);
                                                                             Condition to specify when the filter should
  protected boolean shouldNotFilter(HttpServletRequest request) {
    return !request.getServletPath().equals("/user");
                                                                                           not be executed
```

Create a new Filter to validate JWT tokens

```
public class JWTTokenValidatorFilter extends OncePerRequestFilter {
  protected void doFilterInternal(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response, FilterChain filterChain)
      throws ServletException, IOException {
    String jwt = request.getHeader(SecurityConstants.JWT_HEADER);
    if (null != jwt) {
      try {
        SecretKey key = Keys.hmacShaKeyFor(
            SecurityConstants. JWT_KEY.getBytes(StandardCharsets. UTF_8));
        Claims claims = Jwts.parserBuilder()
             .setSigningKey(key)
             .build()
            .parseClaimsJws(jwt)
             .getBody();
        String username = String.valueOf(claims.get("username"));
        String authorities = (String) claims.get("authorities");
        Authentication auth = new UsernamePasswordAuthenticationToken(username, null,
            Authority Utils. comma Separated String To Authority List (authorities)); \\
        Security Context Holder. {\it getContext} (). set Authentication (auth); \\
     } catch (Exception e) {
        throw new BadCredentialsException("Invalid Token received!");
   filterChain.doFilter(request, response);
```