

Experiment-6.2

Implement Protected Routes with JWT Verification

Code-

1. Node.js Server (server.js)

The main server file. It includes the login logic, middleware, and protected routes.

```
1 const express = require('express');
2 const jwt = require('jsonwebtoken');
3
4 const app = express();
5 const port = 3000;
6
7 // Use Express's built-in middleware to parse JSON bodies
8 app.use(express.json());
9
10 // --- Configuration ---
11
12 // NEVER hardcode secrets in a real app. Use environment variables.
13 const JWT_SECRET = 'your-super-secret-key-that-is-very-long-and-secure';
14
15 // Hardcoded user database for this example
16 const users = [
17   {
18     id: 1,
19     username: 'testuser',
20     password: 'password123'
21   }
22 ];
23
24 // --- Routes ---
25
26 /**
27  * Public route
28  * Anyone can access this.
29  */
30 app.get('/api/public', (req, res) => {
31   res.json({ message: 'This route is public and open to everyone.' });
32 });
33
34 /**
35  * Login route
36  * Issues a JWT if credentials are valid.
37  */
38 app.post('/api/login', (req, res) => {
39   // Get username and password from request body
40   const { username, password } = req.body;
41
42   // Find the user in our "database"
43   const user = users.find(u => u.username === username && u.password ===
password);
```

```

44
45     if (!user) {
46         return res.status(401).json({ message: 'Invalid username or password' })
47     }
48
49     // User is valid. Create a payload for the token.
50     // Don't include sensitive info like the password!
51     const payload = {
52         id: user.id,
53         username: user.username,
54     };
55
56     // Sign the token
57     const token = jwt.sign(
58         payload,
59         JWT_SECRET,
60         { expiresIn: '1h' } // Token expires in 1 hour
61
62
63     // Send the token to the client
64     res.json({ token: token });
65 });
66
67 /**
68  * Protected route
69  * Only accessible with a valid JWT.
70  */
71 app.get('/api/protected', verifyToken, (req, res) => {
72     // If the code reaches this point, it means the verifyToken middleware
73     // successfully authenticated the user.
74     // The user's data (from the token payload) is attached to req.user.
75     res.json({
76         message: 'You have accessed a protected route!',
77         user: req.user
78     });
79 });
80
81
82 // --- Middleware ---
83
84 /**
85  * This function intercepts requests to protected routes.
86  */
87 function verifyToken(req, res, next) {
88     // 1. Get the authorization header
89     const authHeader = req.headers['authorization'];
90
91
92     // 2. Check if it exists and has the 'Bearer ' prefix
93     // Format is "Bearer <token>"
94     const token = authHeader && authHeader.split(' ')[1];
95
96     // 3. If no token, send 401 Unauthorized
97     if (token == null) {
98         return res.status(401).json({ message: 'Token missing' });
99     }
100

```

```

101 // 4. Verify the token
102 jwt.verify(token, JWT_SECRET, (err, userPayload) => {
103     if (err) {
104         // If token is invalid (expired, wrong signature, etc.)
105         return res.status(403).json({ message: 'Token is invalid or expired'
106     });
107 }
108
109 // 5. Token is valid. Attach payload to request object
110 req.user = userPayload;
111
112 // 6. Call the next middleware or route handler
113 next();
114 });
115 }
116
117 // --- Start Server ---
118 app.listen(port, () => {
119     console.log(`Server running on http://localhost:${port}`);
120     console.log('---');
121     console.log('Hardcoded user for testing:');
122     console.log('Username: testuser');
123     console.log('Password: password123');
124     console.log('---');
125     console.log('Routes:');
126     console.log('POST /api/login (public)');
127     console.log('GET /api/public (public)');
128     console.log('GET /api/protected (protected)');
129 });

```

Listing 1: server.js - Main Application

2. Dependencies (package.json)

This file defines the project's dependencies, which are installed with 'npm install'.

```
1 {
2   "name": "jwt-protected-routes",
3   "version": "1.0.0",
4   "description": "Example of JWT protected routes",
5   "main": "server.js",
6   "scripts": {
7     "start": "node server.js"
8   },
9   "dependencies": {
10    "express": "^4.19.2",
11    "jsonwebtoken": "^9.0.2"
12  }
13 }
```

Listing 2: package.json - Dependencies

3. Terminal Commands

These are the commands you run in your terminal to install and start the server.

```
1 # 1. Install dependencies
2 npm install
3
4 # 2. Start the server
5 npm start
```

Listing 3: Installation and Startup

4. Postman Login Body

This is the JSON data you send in the body of your POST request to '/api/login'.

```
1 {
2   "username": "testuser",
3   "password": "password123"
4 }
```

Listing 4: POST /api/login (raw, JSON)