

Web Application Security Testing

Course Work 2: Group Report

Course Title: COMP09109 - Web Application Security Testing

Weeks Covered: 01 to 10

Assignment Type: In-Class Assessment

Weight Toward Final Grade: 40%

Total Marks Available: 100

My Methodology

Step 1:

Download the bWAPP application zip file from

<https://sourceforge.net/projects/bwapp/files/bWAPP/>

The file is downloaded successfully



Now make directory a directory in /var directory i.e [/var/www/html](#)

- Now make /var/www/html directory

```
mkdir /var/www/html
```

then unzip the **bWAPPv2.2.zip** into **/var/www/html**

```
(b00278781@kali) - [~/Downloads]
$ sudo unzip bWAPPv2.2.zip -d /var/www/html/
Archive:  bWAPPv2.2.zip
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/666
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/admin/index.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/admin/phpinfo.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/admin/settings.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/aim.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/apps/movie_search
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/ba_captcha_bypass.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/ba_forgotten.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/ba_insecure_login.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/ba_insecure_login_1.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/ba_insecure_login_2.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/ba_insecure_login_3.php
  inflating: /var/www/html/bWAPP/ba_logout.php
```

After it is successful, run the following commands

```
sudo service apache2 start
```

```
sudo service mysql start
```

The above commands will start the Apache and MySQL server

```
(b00278781@kali)-[~/Downloads]
$ sudo service apache2 start

(b00278781@kali)-[~/Downloads]
$ sudo service mysql start

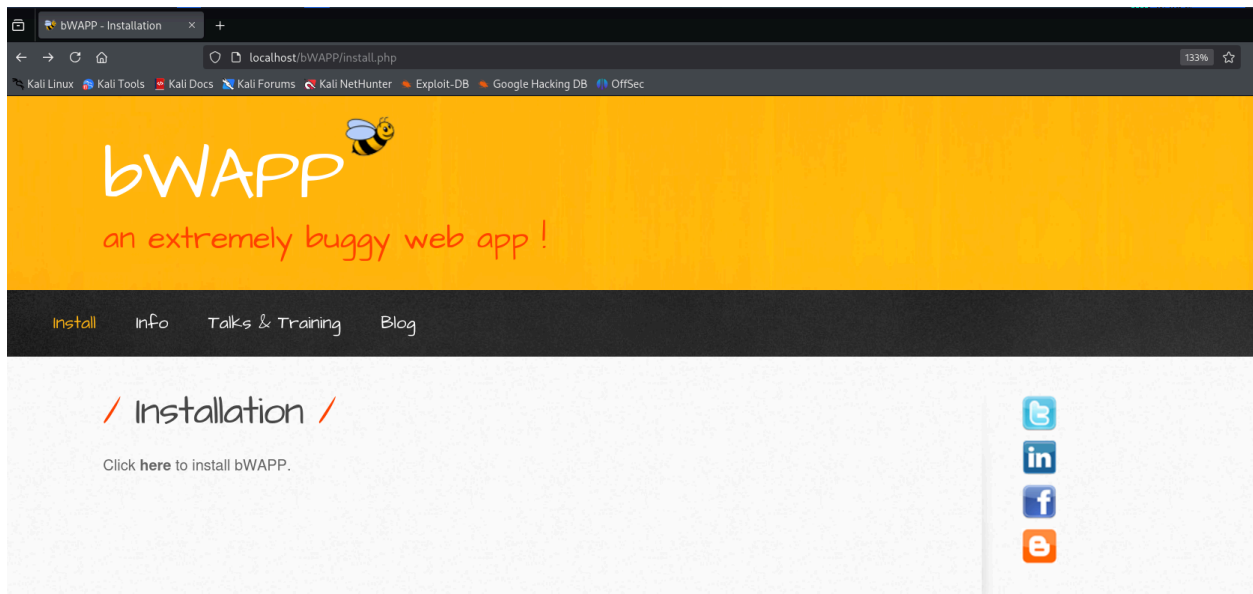
(b00278781@kali)-[~/Downloads]
$
```

- Navigate to `/var/www/html/bWAPP/admin` and open `settings.php` with nano
- The Default credentials of login page are found in `settings.php` .

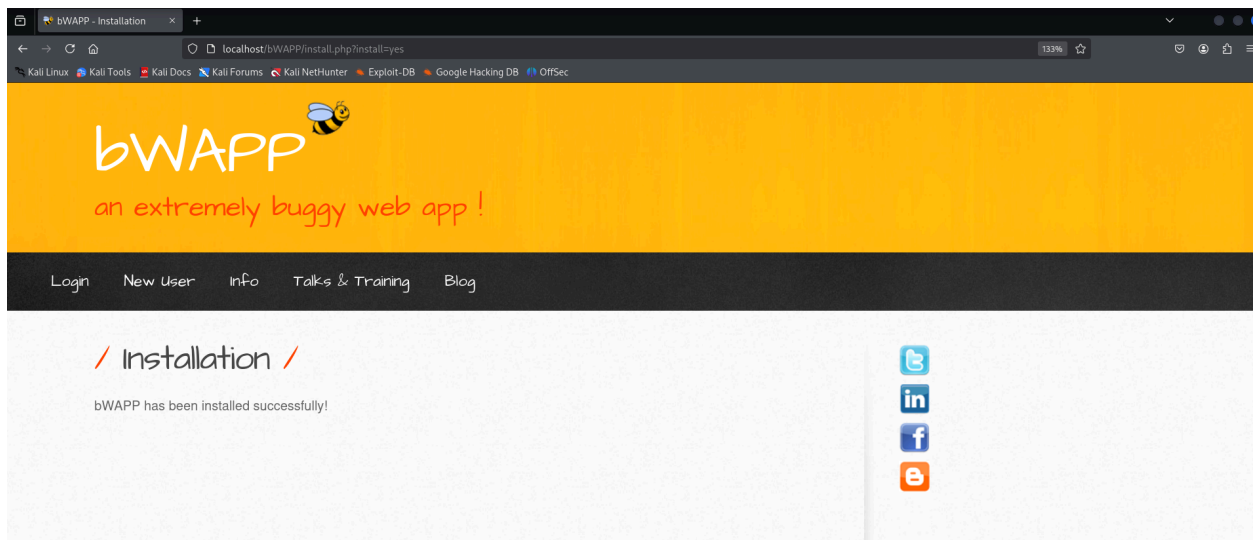
```
// Static credentials
// These credentials are used on some PHP pages
$login = "bee";
$password = "bug";
```

- Open Firefox and go to the following URL

<http://localhost/bWAPP/install.php>



click on install and now it is installed successfully



Step 2:

Now we will install zaproxy in our kali linux as it is not installed by default on Kali Linux

Run the following command in terminal

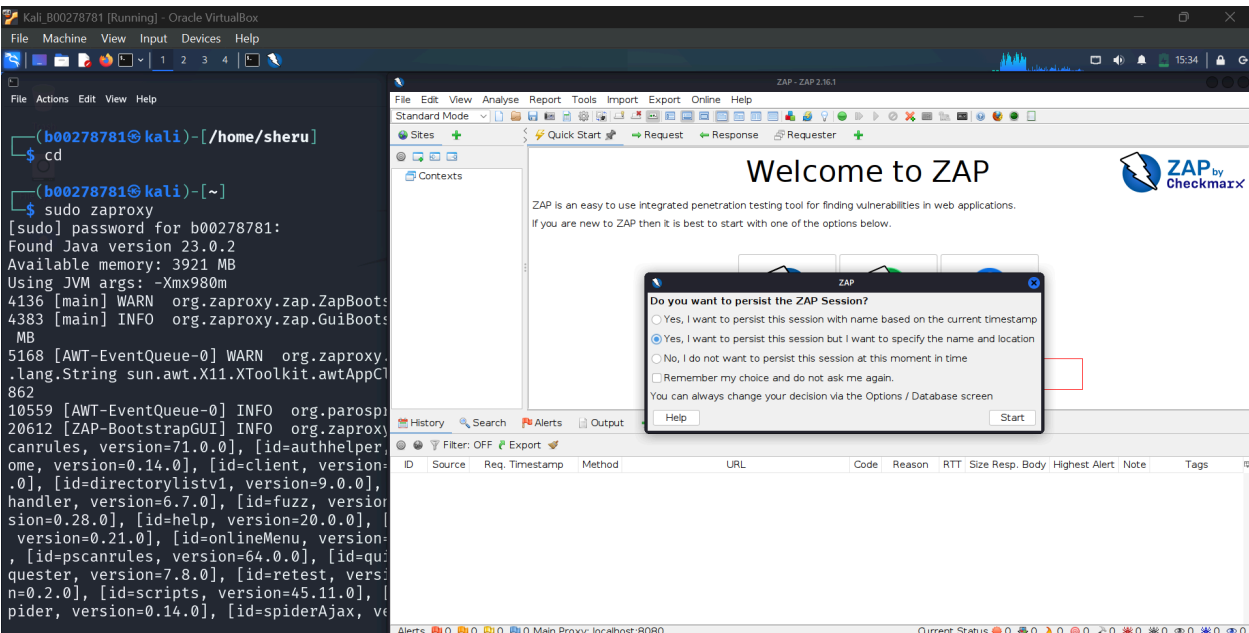
```
sudo apt install zaproxy
```

```
(b00278781@kali)-[~]
$ sudo apt install zaproxy
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
crackmapexec      libibverbs1      perl-modules-5.38
dnsmap            libice-dev        pyqt5-dev-tools
figlet            libimobiledevice6  python-odf-doc
finger            libiniparser1     python-odf-tools
firebird3.0-common libjim0.82t64     python-tables-data
firebird3.0-common-doc libjsoncpp25      python3-appdirs
font-likanationa  liblua5.2-2       python3-bottleneck
```

- sudo zaproxy

sudo zaproxy

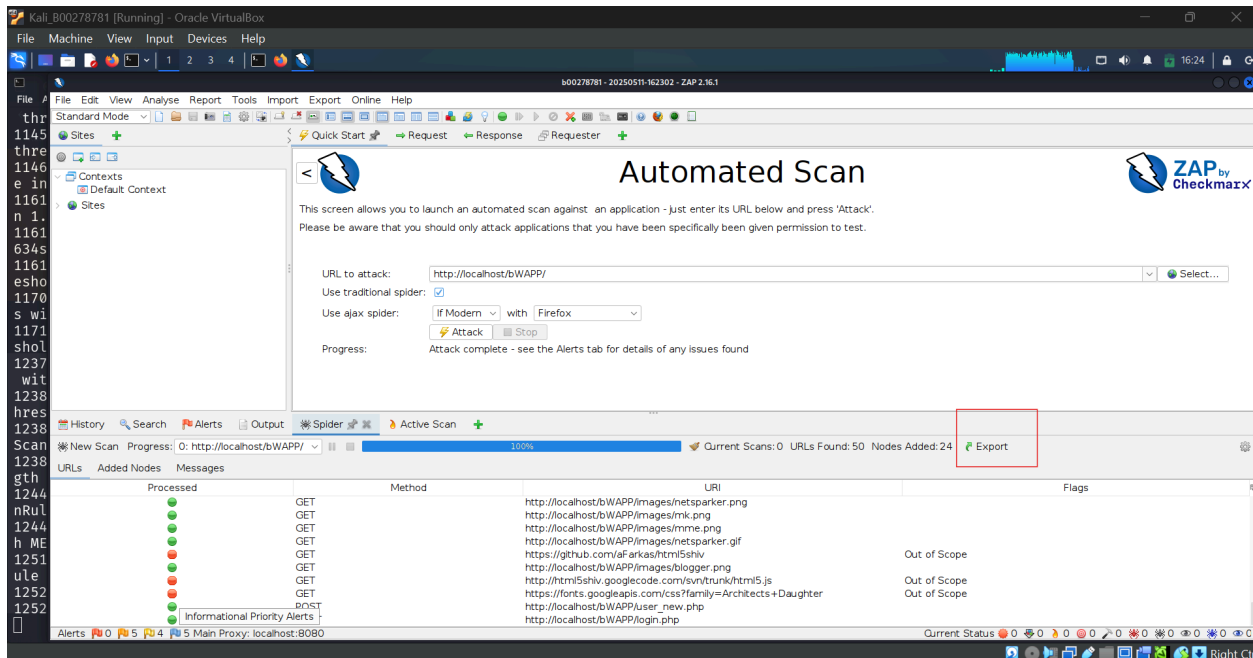
- Upon initial launch, one must choose whether to persist the session by saving it to HSQLDB or to opt for a temporary session. Please select "Yes, I want to persist this session, but I want to specify the name and location"



Task 1

List down all the URLs/Locations that can be accessed without authentication.

Start quick scan on the target and export the urls from the spider tab into a file



Save them in the file **unauthenticated.csv**

Here is the list of all the URLs that can be accessed without authentication

<http://localhost/robots.txt>,Seed

<http://localhost/sitemap.xml>,Seed

<http://localhost/bWAPP/>,

<http://localhost/bWAPP/portal.php>,

<http://localhost/bWAPP/login.php>,

http://localhost/bWAPP/user_new.php,

[http://localhost/bWAPP/info.php,](http://localhost/bWAPP/info.php)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/training.php,](http://localhost/bWAPP/training.php)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/js/html5.js,](http://localhost/bWAPP/js/html5.js)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/stylesheets/styleSheet.css,](http://localhost/bWAPP/stylesheets/styleSheet.css)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/favicon.ico,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/favicon.ico)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/twitter.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/twitter.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/linkedin.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/linkedin.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/facebook.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/facebook.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/blogger.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/blogger.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/bee_1.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/bee_1.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/owasp.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/owasp.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/cc.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/cc.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/zap.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/zap.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/netsparker.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/netsparker.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/mk.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/mk.png)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/user_new.php,](http://localhost/bWAPP/user_new.php)

[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/mme.png,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/mme.png)

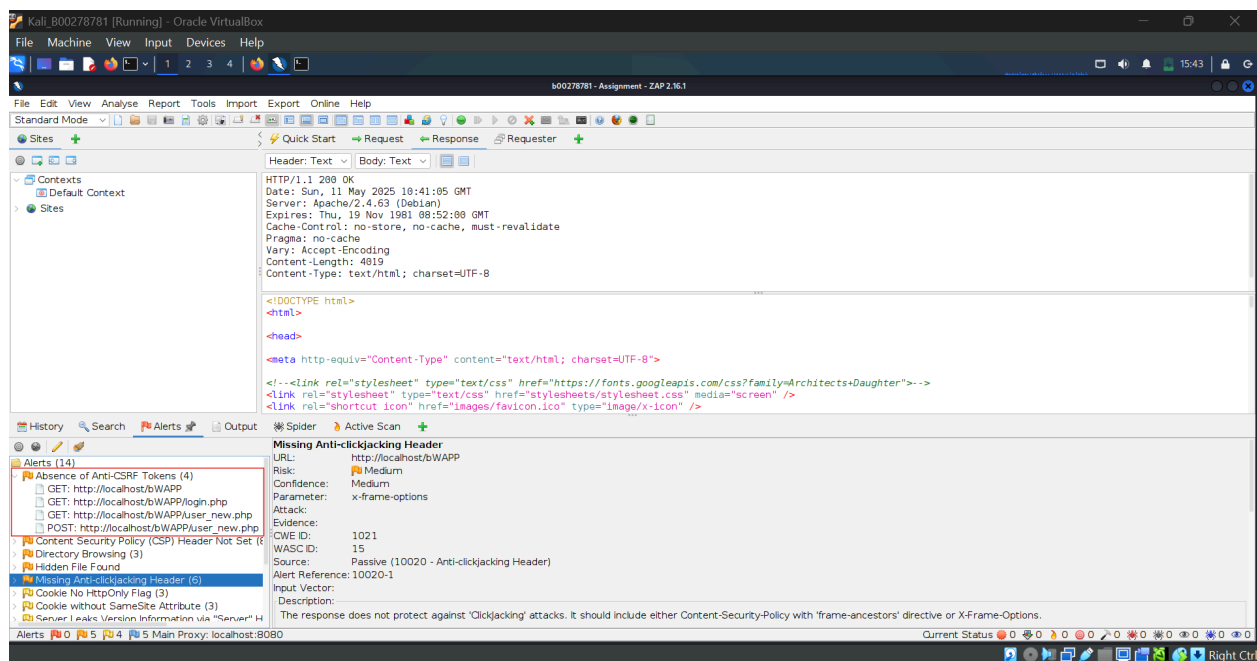
[http://localhost/bWAPP/images/netsparker.gif,](http://localhost/bWAPP/images/netsparker.gif)

<http://localhost/bWAPP/login.php>,

Task 2

Investigate all the alerts generated, discuss the vulnerabilities found, and recommend actions to plug in those vulnerabilities. The number of generated alerts depends on the web app, so please provide proof of how many alerts are generated for your case. There may be multiple sub-alerts for an alert; for example, for SQL Injection, you can get multiple examples/URLs for that alert. Please take at least one use case/example for each type of alert generated. Avoid using general statements. For example, instead of stating that the web app is vulnerable to SQL Injection, give appropriate examples/explanations. Rather than saying that the cookie is vulnerable, you can mention that the cookie is vulnerable because it has not been set to HttpOnly and then discuss various settings for cookies and how they impact or how they can be set properly to enhance security.

Absence of Anti-CSRF Token



An **anti-CSRF token** (also called a **CSRF token** or **synchronizer token**) is a **security measure** used to prevent **Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)** attacks.

What Is a CSRF Attack?

In a **CSRF attack**, a **malicious website** tricks a user (already logged into a secure site) into performing **unwanted actions** (like changing a password or transferring money) without their knowledge.

Example:

- You're logged into `bank.com`.
- A malicious site tricks your browser into sending a request like:

```
http://bank.com/transfer?to=hacker&amount=1000
```

- Since you're already logged in, your cookies are sent — and the transfer goes through.

Why CSRF Vulnerabilities Exist

1. Missing Anti-CSRF Token

The application **does not include a CSRF token** in forms or API requests, so it can't tell if the request was made by the real user or by an attacker.

2. Token Is Not Validated

Sometimes the token is present, but the server **does not actually check** if it's correct, or allows reused/expired tokens.

3. Same-Site Cookie Policy Not Set

Browsers send cookies (like session IDs) with cross-site requests unless `SameSite` cookie policy is enforced (`Strict` or `Lax`). Without this, a malicious site can make authenticated requests on behalf of the user.

How to Fix it?

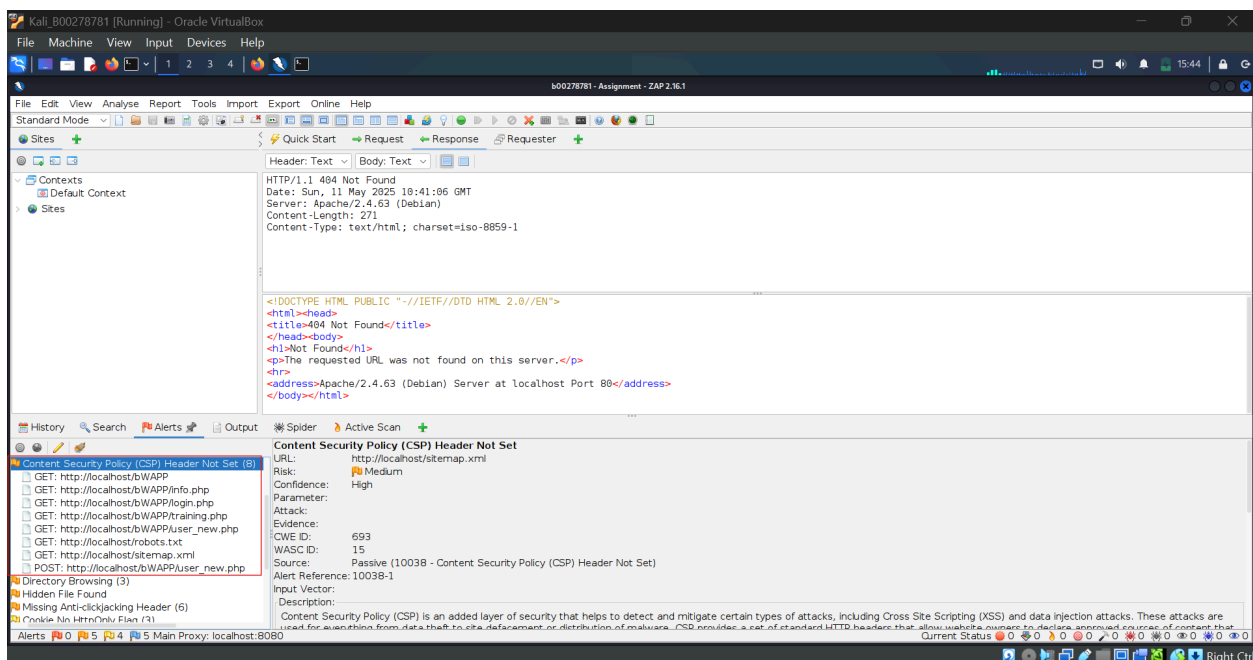
- Implement CSRF protection using tokens that:
 - Are unique per session or request.

- Are embedded in HTML forms or request headers.
- Are validated on the server side.
- Example implementation:
 - Add hidden input:

```
<input type="hidden" name="csrf_token" value="unique_token_value">
```

- Server verifies the token matches the expected value.
- Frameworks like Laravel, Django, or Express.js with `csrf` middleware have built-in CSRF protection.

Content Security Policy (CSP) Header Not Set



What Content Security Policy (CSP)

Content Security Policy (CSP) is an added layer of security that helps to detect and mitigate certain types of attacks, including Cross Site Scripting (XSS) and data injection attacks. These attacks are used for everything from data theft to site

defacement or distribution of malware. CSP provides a set of standard HTTP headers that allow website owners to declare approved sources of content that browsers should be allowed to load on that page — covered types are JavaScript, CSS, HTML frames, fonts, images and embeddable objects such as Java applets, ActiveX, audio and video files.

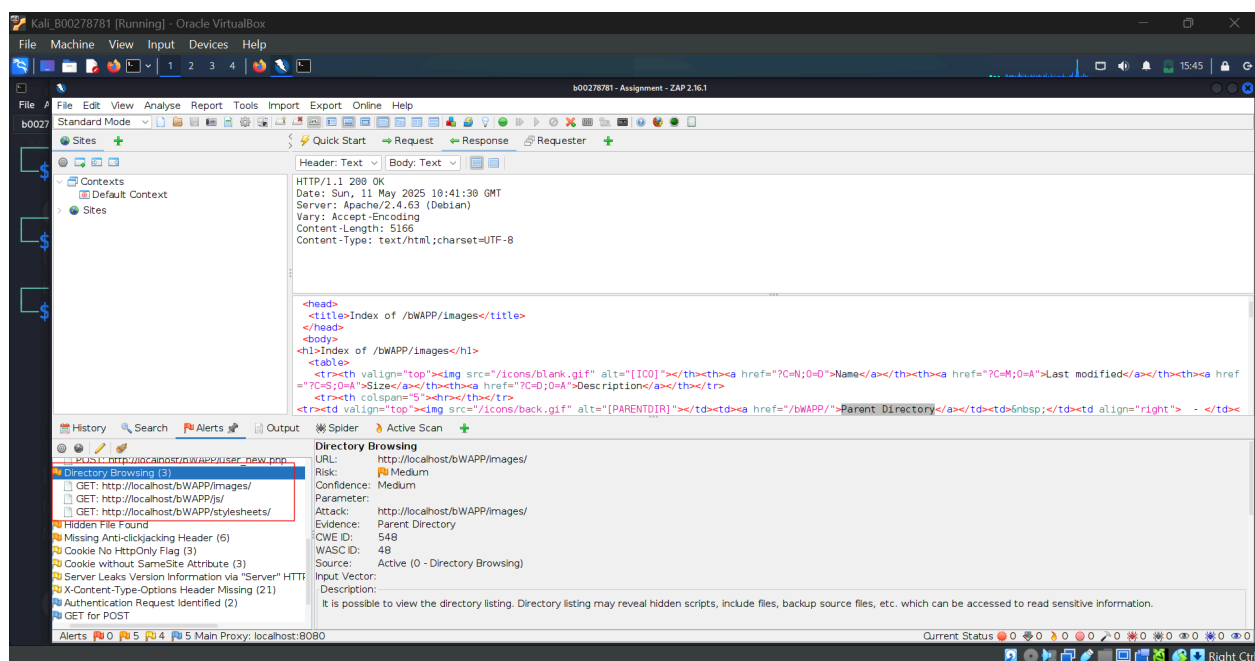
How to Fix this ?

Ensure that your web server, application server, load balancer, etc. is configured to set the Content-Security-Policy header.

- Add a CSP header like:

```
Content-Security-Policy: default-src 'self'; script-src 'self';
```

Directory Traversal

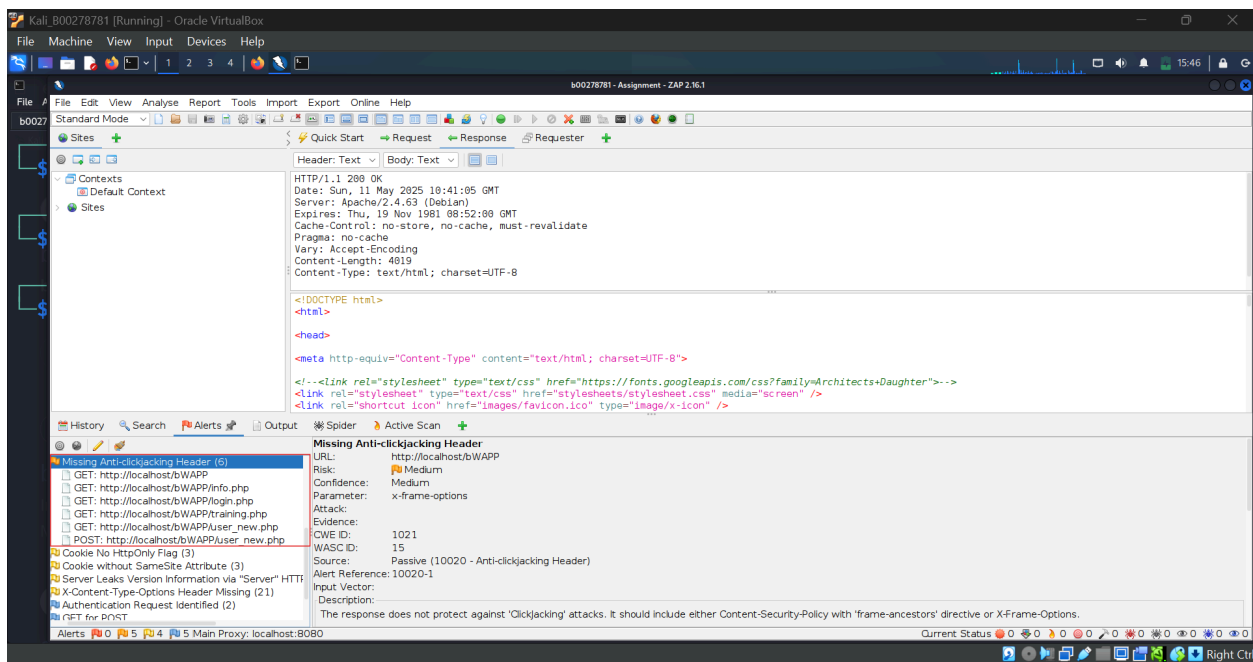


Directory listing vulnerability occurs when a web server is **misconfigured to allow users to view the contents of a directory** in the browser — especially when there's no `index.html` or similar default file to load.

How to Fix it?

- Disable directory listing:
 - **Apache:** Use `Options -Indexes` .
 - **Nginx:** Remove `autoindex on;` .

Missing Anti-Clickjacking Token



A

Missing Anti-Clickjacking Header (or token) vulnerability means that a web application does **not set HTTP response headers that prevent it from being embedded in a frame or iframe** — making it vulnerable to **clickjacking attacks**.

What Is Clickjacking?

Clickjacking is a technique where an attacker tricks a user into clicking something different than what the user perceives — by **embedding the legitimate website into a transparent frame over a malicious page**.

For example, an attacker might:

- Load a bank's website in a hidden iframe
- Ask the victim to "click this button to win a prize"
- But the click actually hits the bank's "Transfer Money" button

Why Missing Headers Are a Problem

If your app **doesn't send proper anti-clickjacking headers**, it can be **framed by another site**, making clickjacking possible.

Example:

No `X-Frame-Options` or `Content-Security-Policy` with `frame-ancestors` directive present in the HTTP response headers.

Explanation:

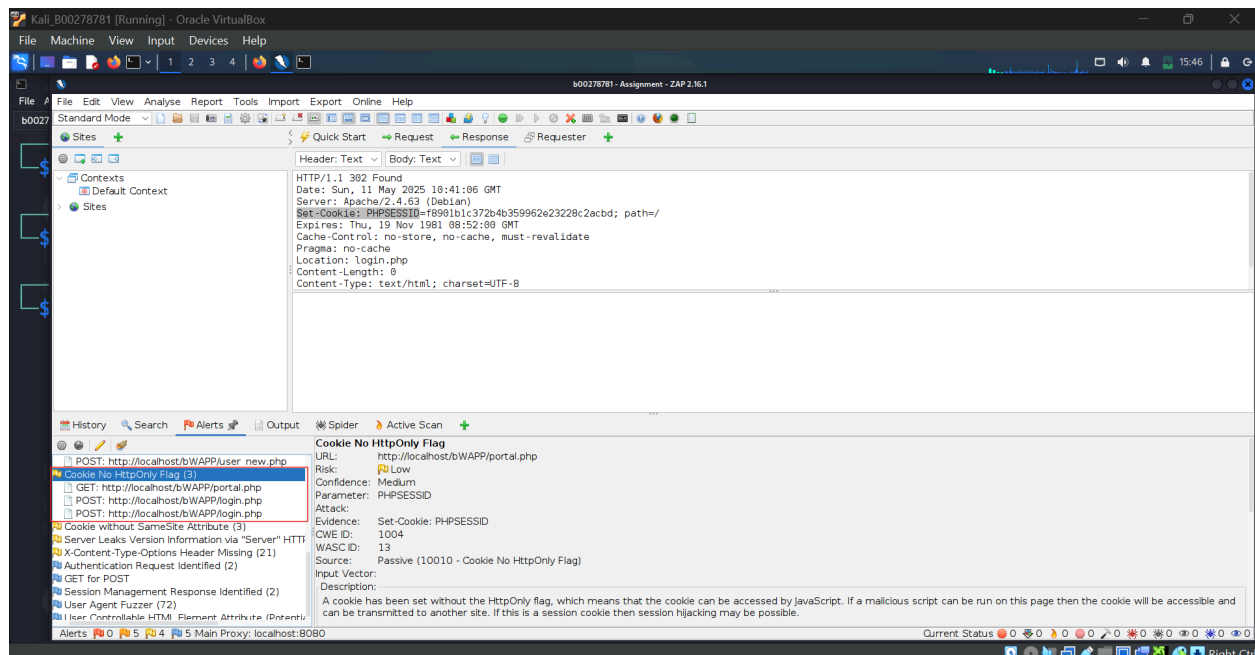
Without these headers, the web page can be embedded into an `<iframe>` on a malicious website, allowing attackers to perform **clickjacking**—tricking users into clicking hidden UI elements, like buttons or links, without their knowledge.

Fix:

- Use the `X-Frame-Options` header to prevent embedding:

```
X-Frame-Options: DENY
```

Cookie with NO HttpOnly Flag



A **cookie without the `HttpOnly` flag** is vulnerable to **client-side access**, specifically from JavaScript running in the browser. This introduces a **Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)** risk, where an attacker can steal sensitive cookies like session tokens using malicious JavaScript.

What is the `HttpOnly` flag?

- When set, the cookie **cannot** be accessed via `document.cookie` in JavaScript.
- It is meant to **prevent theft of cookies** via XSS attacks.

How to Fix This?

Set the `HttpOnly` Flag on Cookies

This is the **most direct fix**.

When setting cookies that store sensitive data like session tokens, add the `HttpOnly` attribute:

Example in HTTP Header:

```
Set-Cookie: sessionId=abc123; HttpOnly; Secure; SameSite=Strict
```

