Web Application Security
Winning When The Odds Are Against You

YOW! West, Perth, 2015

CTO FOR HIRE

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What Is Web Application Security?

Areas of Web App Sec

Application
- Session Handling
  - Sessions are stored in /tmp
  - Hijacking
    - Minimise mith IP change detection — What about users wh...
    - If my laptop's s...
    - Consider impli...
  - Allow user to terminate another session for their login
- PHP's weaknesses
  - Weak typing
  - Default configuration
    - addslashes
    - register globals — Yes, some hosts still enab...

Servers
- Configuration
  - Permissions — Process Owner
  - FTP Access
- Security
  - TLS/SSL for secure communications
  - Shared Hosting

Remote Systems
- Email
- Monitoring
- Offsite Backups
- Third-party Code
  - CDN Hosted Javascript
  - Avatars
  - Analytics
  - Embedded videos

Code Location
- Environment Specific Configuration
  - ngs.php / wp-config.php
  - Environment variables
- Secrets in Code
  - Permissions

Data Storage
- Database
  - Permissions
  - Injection
  - Encryption
  - Encoding
  - B where possible
- Logging
  - Data retention
    - ublish data than delete it?
    - ser to delete all their data
  - enough to provide security audit
  - n security issue if logs are leaked
  - n't log to screen! Log to a log file

User Authentication
- Transmit secure data only over TLS/SSL
- Don't store any private data in the session cookie
  - Username is bad
  - Password is VERY bad
  - Just need session ID — Sessio...
- Remember me
  - Convenience versus security
  - Don't store private data in this either
  - Store a GUID that's stored against the user in the database
- Multi-factor Authentication
- Session regeneration on privilege change
- Reauthenticate users for sensitive actions
  - Change password
  - Make payment
- Logout should remove all session data
  - Unset auth related variables
  - Invalidate session
- Session timeout on inactivity
- Passwords
  - One-way hashing, not encryption
  - SHA256 or better if possible
  - Hash using a sitewide salt AND a per-user salt
- Deter attackers
  - Throttle login attempts
  - Errors
    - Give nothing away to potential hackers
    - Error on inavlid username or password should be just th...
    - Don't tell them why it failed, just that is failed

User Generated Content
- File uploads
  - File name attacks
  - Execution of user supplied files
- HTML content
- Cookies
  - Store single values, not serialised data — Harder to inject additiona...
  - Check you're deleting cookies properly
    - Set them to expire
    - Set value to false
    - Unset the value in $_COOK...
  - HTTP only? If you're not using them via AJAX, it's good practice — Not...
- Remote form attacks
- Remofe file inclusion
  - allow_url_fopen
  - allow_url_include
- Form methods
  - CSRF
    - POST isn't necessarily safer
    - Token form authentication
      - Per request or per se...
      - Tokens expire on next...

Where to Start?

OWASP

Open Web Application
Security Project

Top Ten Cheat Sheet

Injection	Cross Site Scripting
Weak authentication & session management	Insecure Direct Object Reference
Cross Site Request Forgery	Security Misconfiguration
Insufficient Cryptographic Storage	Failure to Restrict URL access
Insufficient Transport Layer Protection	Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards

OWASP Top Ten Cheat Sheet

Open Web Application Security Project

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Demo

Solutions?

Think like your favourite
programming language...

Not in your favourite programming language...

Think **LIKE** your favourite programming language...

HTTP

GET /index.html

<html>..</html>

GET /css/styles.css

GET /js/script.js

GET /images/logo.jpg

body { ... }

$(document).ready(...)

data:image/jpg;base64,/9j/4AAQSkZJRgA...

HTTP

GET /index.php

PHP process

PHP returns

<html>..</html>

POST /login.php

PHP process

PHP returns

<html>..</html>

Cross-Site Request Forgeries

POST /address/edit   PHP process

POST /login   PHP process

{401}   PHP returns

<html>..</html>   PHP returns

POST /checkout   PHP process

<html>..</html>   PHP returns

POST /address/edit   PHP process

POST /payment   PHP process

{ 200 }   PHP returns

<html>..</html>   PHP returns

GET /confirmation   PHP process

<html>..</html>   PHP returns

evil.com   good.com

PHP Ain't Clever

(hint, not many programming languages are!)
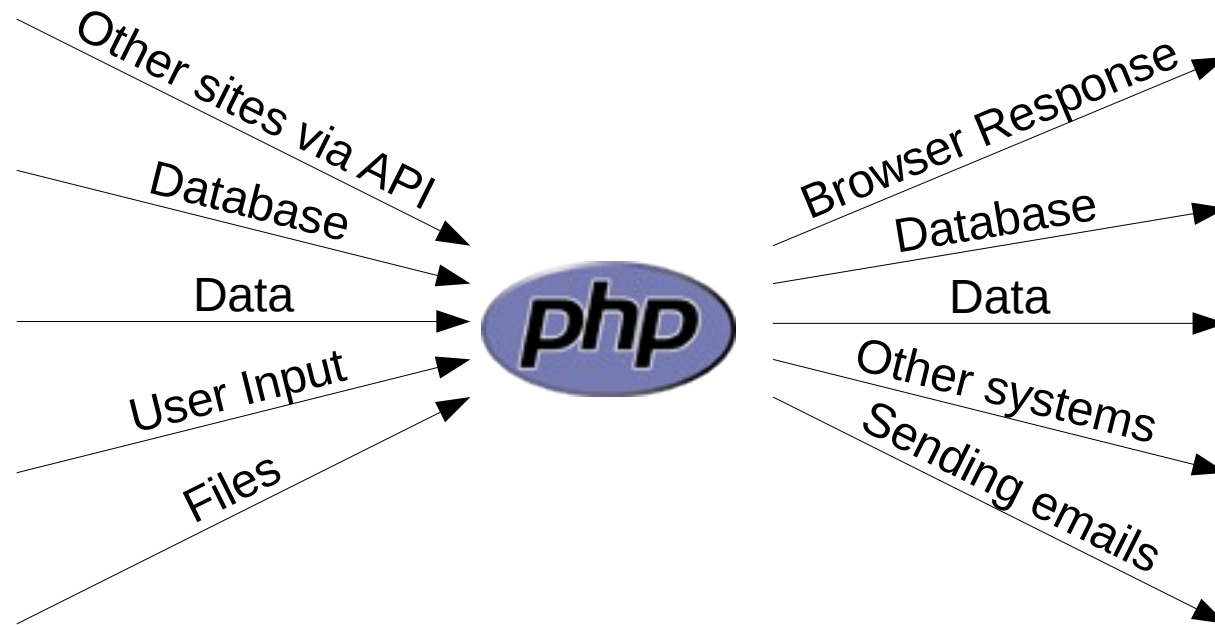
Inputs: Other sites via API, Database, Data, User Input, Files

Outputs: Browser Response, Database, Data, Other systems, Sending emails

Piecing Data Together

$_GET $_POST

$_COOKIE As of PHP 4.3.0

$_REQUEST

Validate All Incoming Data

#webappsec   #yowwest15   https://joind.in/14594

Look Out for Odd Entry Points

Look Out for Odd Entry Points
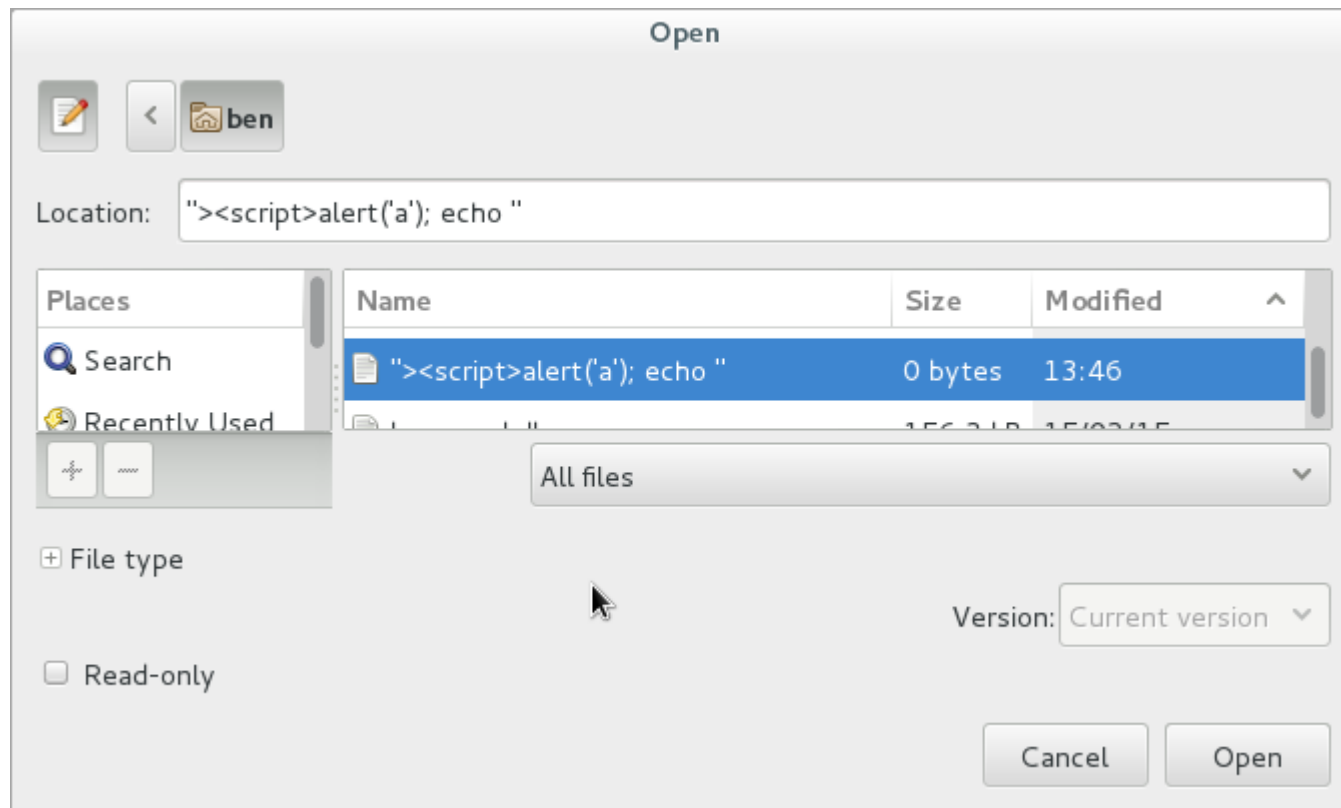
Email Addresses?

ben@dechrai.com

ben+yowwest15@dechrai.com

"Ben at YOW! West"@dechrai.com

Bện@169.254.141.29

Email Addresses?

```
(?:[a-z0-9!#$%&'*+/=?^_`{|}~-]+(?:\.[a-z0-9!#$%&'*+/=?^_`{|}~-]
+)*

  |  "(?:[\x01-\x08\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x1f\x21\x23-\x5b\x5d-\x7f]

    |  \\[\x01-\x09\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x7f])*")

@ (?:(?:[a-z0-9](?:[a-z0-9-]*[a-z0-9])?\.)+[a-z0-9](?:[a-z0-
9-]*[a-z0-9])?

  |  \[(?:(?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|[01]?[0-9][0-9]?)\.){3}

    (?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|[01]?[0-9][0-9]?|[a-z0-9-]*[a-z0-
9]:

      (?:[\x01-\x08\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x1f\x21-\x5a\x53-\x7f]

      |  \\[\x01-\x09\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x7f])+)

  \])
```

Email Addresses?

```
(?:[a-z0-9!#$%&'*+/=?^_`{|}~-]+(?:\.[a-z0-9!#$%&'*+/=?^_`{|}~-]
+)*
    |  "(?:[\x01-\x08\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x1f\x21\x23-\x5b\x5d-\x7f]
       |  \\[\x01-\x09\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x7f])*")
@ (?:(?:[a-z0-9](?:[a-z0-9-]*[a-z0-9])?\.)+[a-z0-9](?:[a-z0-
9-]*[a-z0-9])?
    |  \[(?:(?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|[01]?[0-9][0-9]?)\.){3}
       (?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|[01]?[0-9][0-9]?|[a-z0-9-]*[a-z0-
9]:
          (?:[\x01-\x08\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x1f\x21-\x5a\x53-\x7f]
          |  \\[\x01-\x09\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x7f])+)
    \])
```

Some people, when confronted with a problem, think, "I know, I'll use regular expressions." Now they have two problems.

— Jamie Zawinksi

Email Addresses?

Send them an email!

Names?
(see http://is.gd/validating_names)

Falsehoods Programmers Believe About Names

1. People have exactly one canonical full name.
2. People have exactly one full name which they go by.
3. People have, at this point in time, exactly one canonical full name.
4. People have, at this point in time, one full name which they go by.
5. People have exactly N names, for any value of N.
6. People's names fit within a certain defined amount of space.
7. People's names do not change.
8. People's names change, but only at a certain enumerated set of events.
9. People's names are written in ASCII.
10. People's names are written in any single character set.
11. People's names are all mapped in Unicode code points.
12. People's names are case sensitive.
13. People's names are case insensitive.
14. People's names sometimes have prefixes or suffixes, but you can safely ignore those.
15. People's names do not contain numbers.

Names?

- Who decides if a name is valid?
    - Josè Smith
    - Laȝamon
    - Þórinn Eikinskjaldi
    - Πηληϊάδεω Ἀχιλῆος
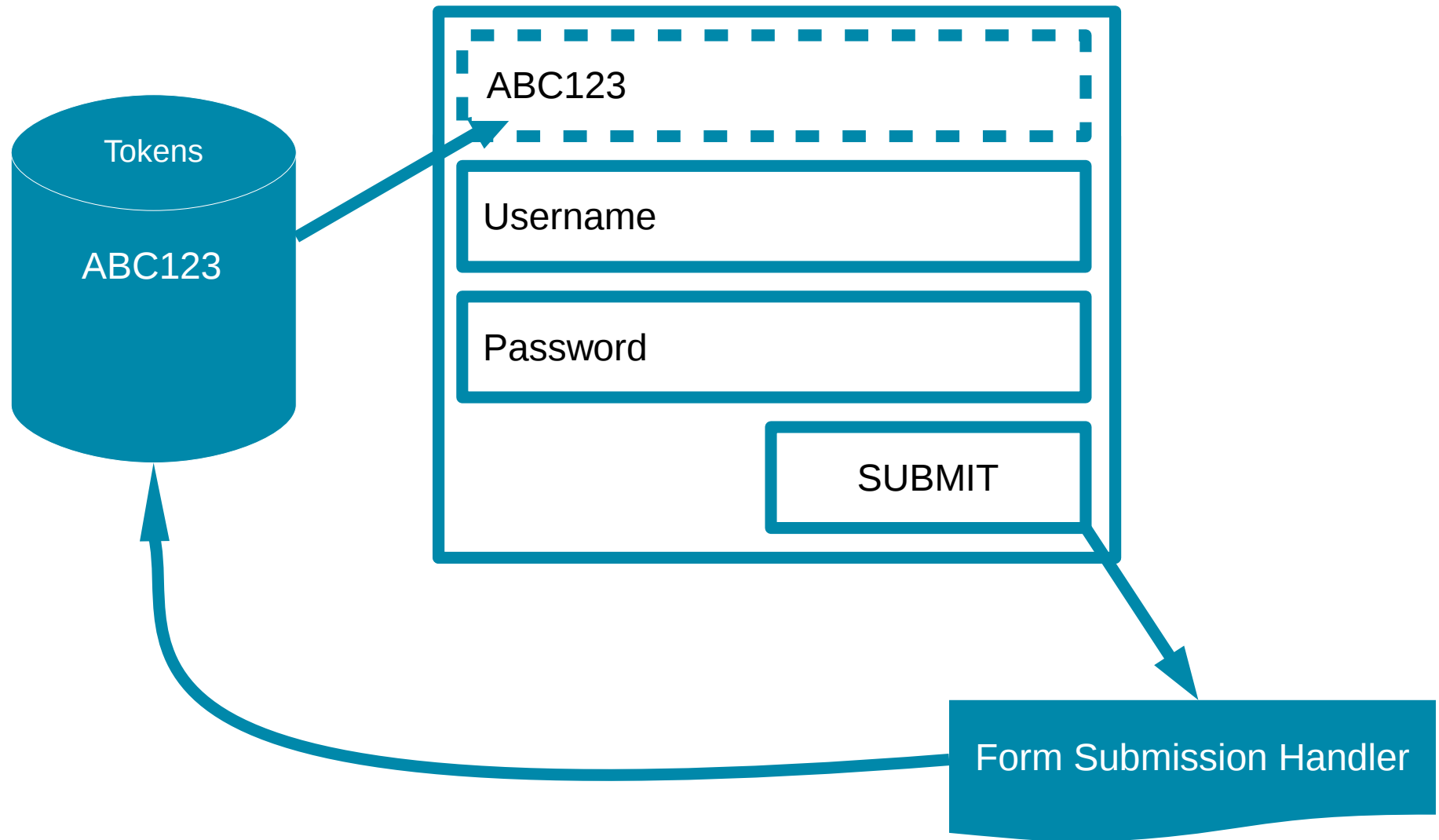   - Federico del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús García Lorca
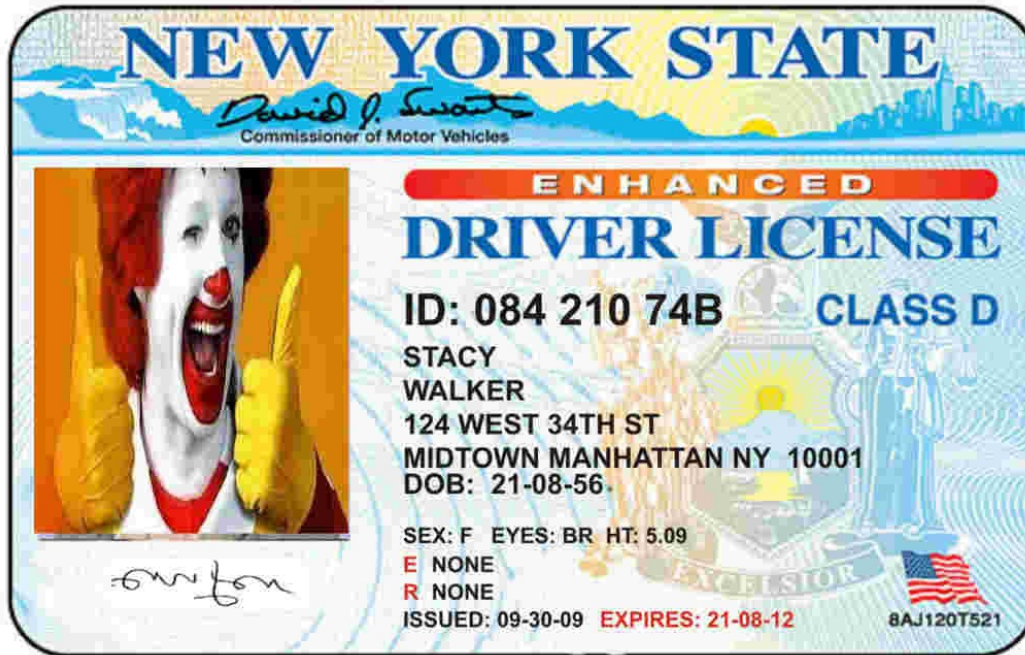
Sanitize Data

User Generated Content

Sanitization Function

Sanitized Content

HTML
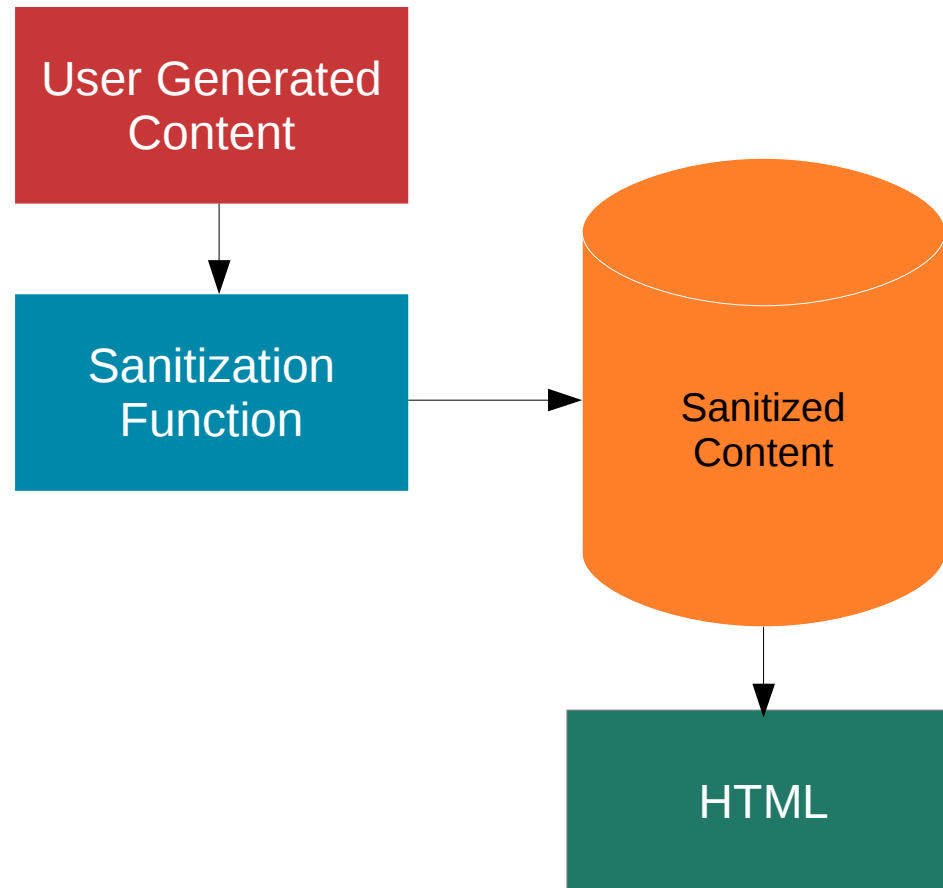
Sanitize on Output

Cross-Site Request Forgeries

Tokens

ABC123

ABC123

Username

Password

SUBMIT

Form Submission Handler
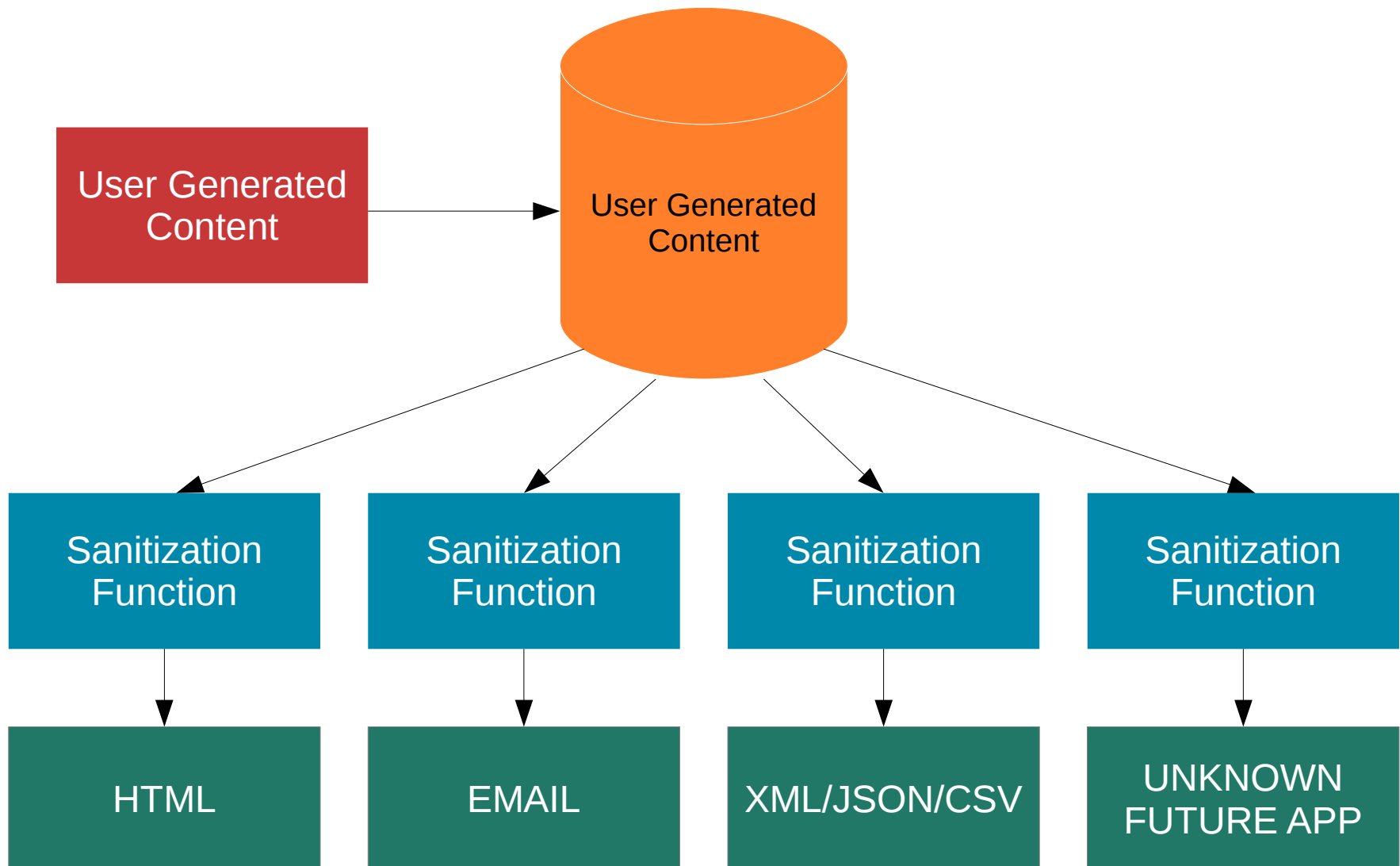
Cross-Site Request Forgeries

Referrers can be easily forged;

don't rely on them

```
curl
    --referer="http://good.com"
    --data "username=admin&password=complex"
    http://good.com/user/login/
```
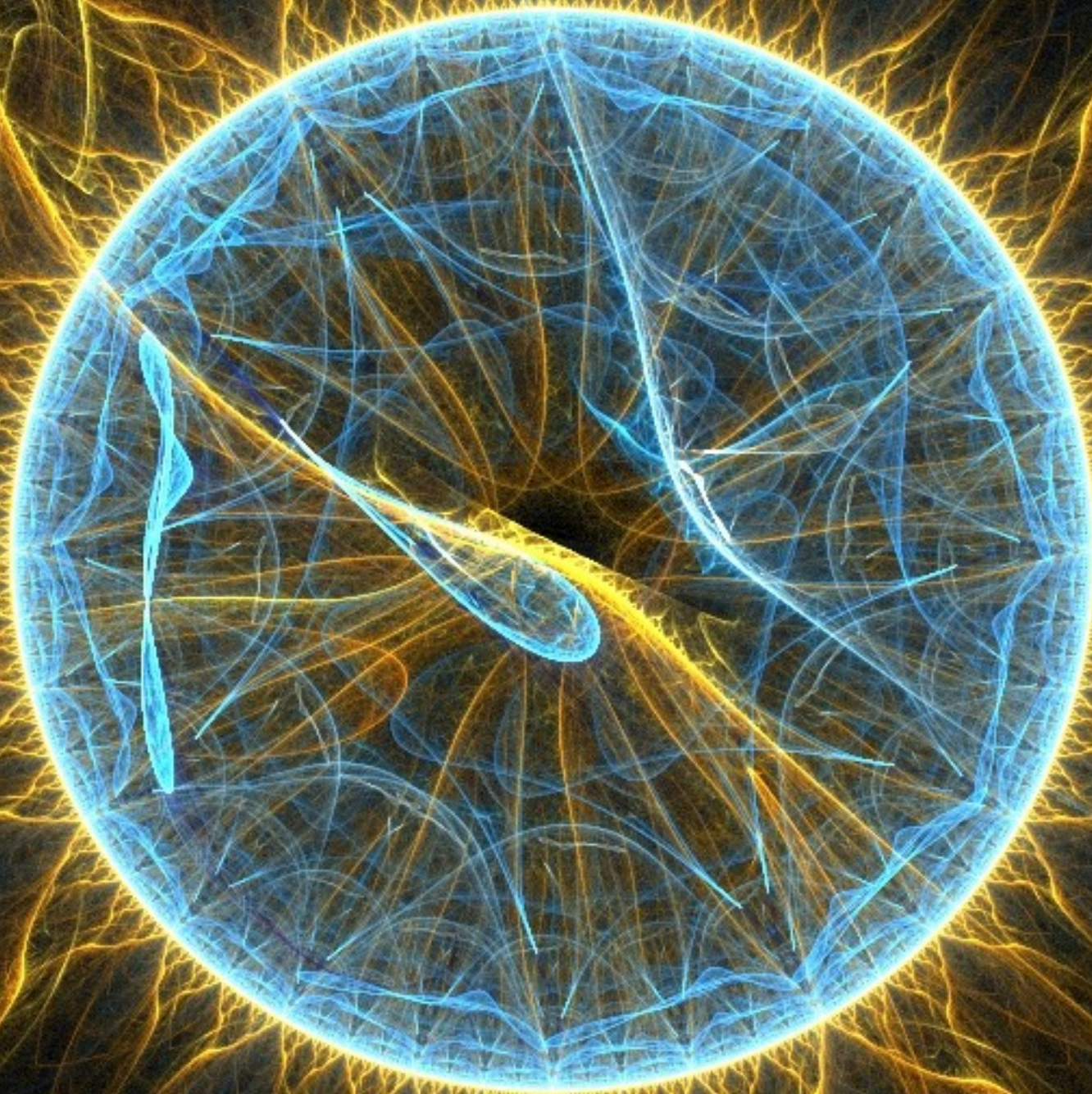
What Are
The Odds?

Making Prototypes Live

"That's great! Let's make it live!"

– Almost every CEO ever

Making Prototypes Live

References

- OWASP Top 10 Cheat Sheet

Credits

- Security Camera image by Henning Mühlinghaus

- Piecing Data by José Manuel Ríos Valiente

- Flip Book Animals by Jamie Fingal

- Customs and Immigation From learnz.org.nz

- Flight Tracks screenshot from flightaware.com

- Conception image by Lynn (Gracie's mom)

- Scooter Security by EpicFail.com

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YOW! West, Perth, 2015

Thank You!
Questions?

https://cto.to/webappsec