

NOTE: SCENARIO IS WHAT THE PUZZLE TAKER SEES.

SCENARIO:

You are developing a web application that requires authentication and authorization. The persistent store used for credential information (usernames and passwords) is a SQL database. The database has a table called "users" organized into three columns: "id" (the primary key), "name," and "username." You are asked to write a helper method to update the username. Consider the snippet of code below and answer the following questions, assuming that the code has all required permissions to execute.

```
01  # import whatever is needed
02  def update_user(username, id)
03      # CODE OMITTED:
04      # Get an object of cursor
05      sql = "UPDATE users SET username = %s WHERE id = %s"
06      cur.execute(sql, (username, id))
```

Questions:

1. What will the function do when executed?
2. If one calls the update_user method with an arbitrary value of username, which one of the following statements is correct?
 - a. The method updates the id and username fields.
 - b. The method updates only the username field.
 - c. The method performs some other operation.
 - d. None of the above.

[Other statistical questions will be imported here while creating the survey.]

NOTE: ANSWER IS TO BE SHOWN TO THE PUZZLE TAKER AT THE END OF THE SESSION.

ANSWERS:

1. The function accepts two values and performs a SQL UPDATE command.
2. b

Even if the user inputs a string like "Robert; DROP TABLE users; --" as the username, the above code will just update the name to the given string, without performing any other operation.

NOTE: THE REST OF THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS EXTRA INFORMATION FOR THE PROJECT RESEARCHERS. IT IS NOT TO BE SHOWN TO THE PUZZLE TAKERS.

TAGS:

Python, SQL-injection, input-verification, input-sanitization

CATEGORIES:

Blindspot - NO

Type - SQL

Number of distinct functions - 1

Number of total functions - 1

Blindspot function - `curs.execute()`

Function call omitted - N/A

Blindspot type - N/A

Number of parameters in the blindspot function - N/A

Cyclomatic complexity - 2

NAME:

Cursor object - An object that represents a precompiled SQL statement.

BLINDSPOT:

N/A

CORRECT USE EXAMPLE:

N/A

MORE INFORMATION:

N/A

REFERENCES:

1. https://www.owasp.org/index.php/SQL_Injection
2. <http://bobby-tables.com/python>