

CSC441      Test1      Instructor: Beddhu Murali      3/23/2021

Max points 100. All questions carry equal weight

- (1) True or False. XSS (Cross Site Scripting) is worse than CSRF (Cross Site Reference Forgery).

True

- (2) Describe CSRF problem. Draw a diagram to illustrate.

CSRF is an attack which tricks an end user into doing actions they don't intend to do usually by clicking a link.



- (3) Describe how would you protect against CSRF

REST and Anti-Forgery Tokens are some of the best ways to prevent CSRF attacks

- (4) Use JavaScript frameworks such as Reactjs in combination with Webpack, makes it nearly impossible to use meta tags for serving CSRF token. However, you can use a fetch GET request to get the CSRF token before making a POST request. Assume that the server sent a CSRF token in a header named x-csrf-token. Write code to get this token from the header and save it in a variable (preferably in the Redux store).

```
async function getData(url = '', data = {}) {
  try {
    const response = await fetch(url, {
      method: 'GET',
      credentials: 'same-origin'
    });
    var cookie = response.headers.get('Set-Cookie');
    var x_csrf_token = response.headers.get('X-CSRF-Token');
    return {cookie, x_csrf_token};
  } catch (e) {
    console.log('postData:Exception: ', e);
  }
}
```

- (5) Write code to send the x-csrf-token using a header to the server.

```
return rp({
  method: 'GET',
  url: "https://test.url/testurl",
  headers: {
    'X-CSRF-Token': "yv34nYKZTUH63nEvuQ1bf48E5KLHz8scspsqDHgm"
  }
}).then(function (html) {
})
```

- (6) Write code to protect a path on the server from CSRF attacks. You can assume the approach and npm modules discussed in the lectures as available.

```
app.post('/signup', csrfProtection, (req, res) => {  
  const body = req.body;  
  console.log('body: ', JSON.stringify(body))  
  res.send(`${JSON.stringify(body)}\n`)  
})
```

- (7) What is the purpose of express-session. What are your choices to store data using expresssession (on or off the server)? Which one you would prefer.

Express-session is used to preserve and store states and data. There needs to be a healthy mix of data that is stored on the server and in the client's browser each session to maintain a healthy balance of performance and responsiveness. I wouldn't prefer one over the other, but more of using them both in a way to maximise efficiency.

- (8) Write a express post handler for the url '/echo' that simply returns (echoes) the data sent if it is json and sends a error message in json format if the data sent is not json.

```
app.post('/', function (req,res) {  
  try{  
    JSON.parse(req.body);  
  } catch (e) {  
    return false;  
  }  
  return res.body;  
})
```

- (9) Write an express middleware function that validates a telephone number and sends an error message and blocks further processing if the telephone number is invalid. Otherwise, processing should proceed further.

```
app.get('/', function(req, res){  
  let re = /(\d[\s-]?)?[\(\)[\s-]{0,3}?\d{3}[\(\)\s-]{0,2}?\d{3}[\s-]?\d{4}/g;  
  if (re.test(req.body)){  
    return res.body;  
  } else {  
    return false;  
  }  
})
```

- (10) What is express-static? How would you use it? Give a code sample using express-static.

Express-static serves static files from the server to the client through middleware functions in Express. The best use cases are for images, CSS, and Javascript files that aren't changing client-side.

```
var express = require('express');  
var app = express();  
  
app.use(express.static('public'));  
app.use(express.static('images'));
```