OWASP Top Ten

John Slankas jbslanka@ncsu.edu



Agenda

- Overview of the Top 10
- A1 Injection
- A2 Broken Authentication and Session Management
- A3 Cross-Site Scripting
- A4 Broken Access Control
- A5 Security Misconfiguration

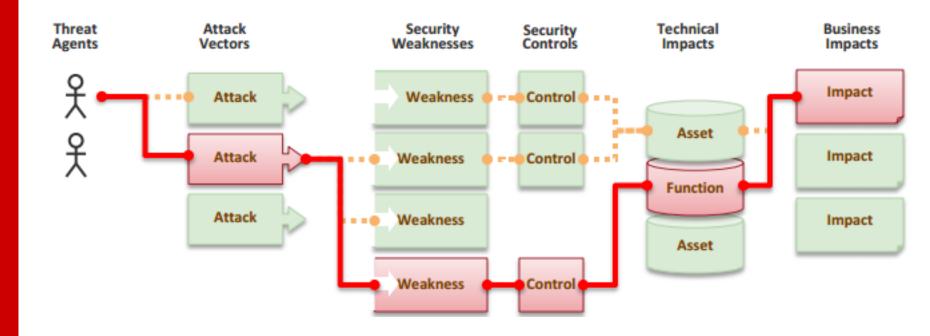


OWASP Top 10

- Started in 2004
- Focus security efforts against the most serious vulnerabilities
- 2013 Version generated from 8 datasets from 7 companies
- 2017 Update in progress.

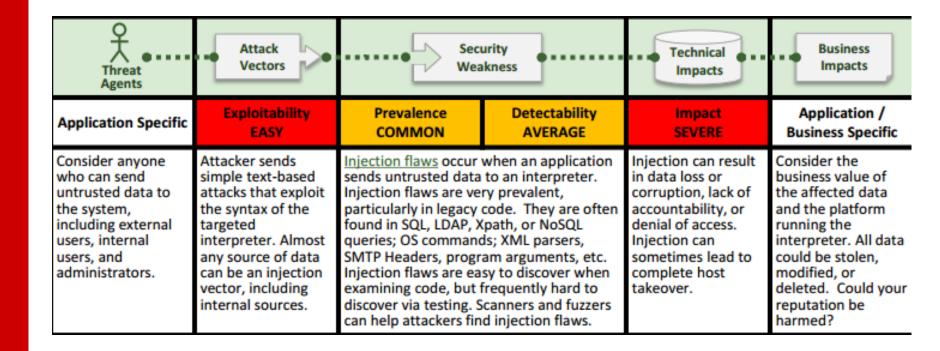


OWASP: Application Security Risk





Injection Attacks





Source: http://owasptop10.googlecode.com/files/OWASP%20Top%2010%20-%202013.pdf

Injection Attacks

Injection attacks occur when unvalidated input is embedded in an instruction stream and cannot be distinguished from valid instructions.

If a language has a parser or an interpreter, and if the input can be confused for instructions in the language or the way the language is applied, then the language is vulnerable to an injection attack.

Consider the following fragment in a dynamic SQL query: 'x = x + ' + input + ';'

Consider the following inputs for the code:



Software Security Principle

- Never trust input!
- Accept only known good input!
 - Reject input that does not conform
 - Or transform it into something that does
- Where does input come from?
 - Parameters or arguments; form fields
 - Cookies
 - Environment variables
 - Request headers
 - URL components
 - Files
 - Databases



– ...

Improper Input Validation Example

Example 1:

This example demonstrates a shopping interaction in which the user is free to specify the quantity of items to be purchased and a total is calculated.

Java Example:

```
...

public static final double price = 20.00;

int quantity = currentUser.getAttribute("quantity");

double total = price * quantity;

chargeUser(total);

...
```

The user has no control over the price variable, however the code does not prevent a negative value from being specified for quantity. If an attacker were to provide a negative value, then the user would have their account credited instead of debited.



SQL Injection Vulnerability

- Condition: When untrusted input is used to construct dynamic SQL queries.
- Consequence: Can be used to alter the intended query logic to access, modify, and delete data in the database, possibly including execution of system commands or creating a denial of service.



SQL Injection - String Type Example

Login: John

Password: John1234

```
String query = "SELECT * FROM users
WHERE login = '" + login +
"' AND password = '" + password + "'";
```

Expected input:

```
SELECT * FROM users
WHERE login = 'John'
AND password = 'John1234'
```

Result: Returns John's user information



SQL Injection – Tautology

```
Login: 'OR '1' = '1
```

Password: ' OR '1' = '1

```
String query = "SELECT * FROM users
    WHERE login = '" + login +
    "' AND password = '" + password + "'";
```

Expected input:

```
SELECT *FROM users

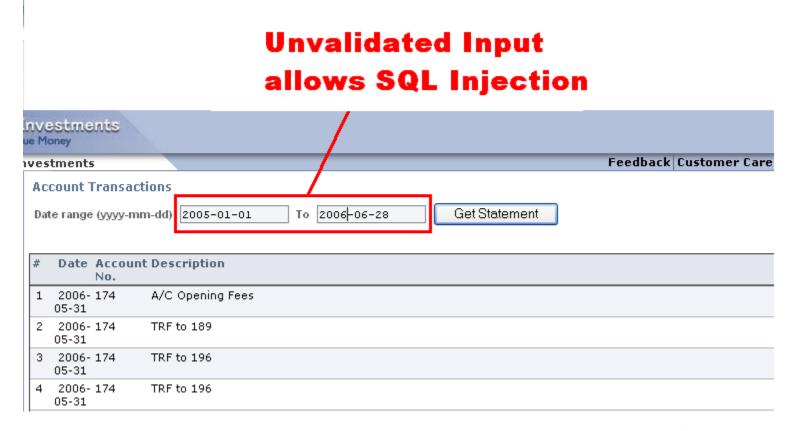
WHERE login = '' OR '1'='1'

AND password = '' OR '1'='1'
```

Result: Returns all user information in the users table



Submitting SQL query logic instead of a valid date can expose confidential records.





From: www.itsa.ufl.edu/2006/presentations/malpani.ppt

```
String query = "SELECT * FROM accounts
    WHERE username = '" + strUName + "'
AND tran_date >= '" + strSDate + "'
AND tran_date <= '" + strEDate + "'";</pre>
```

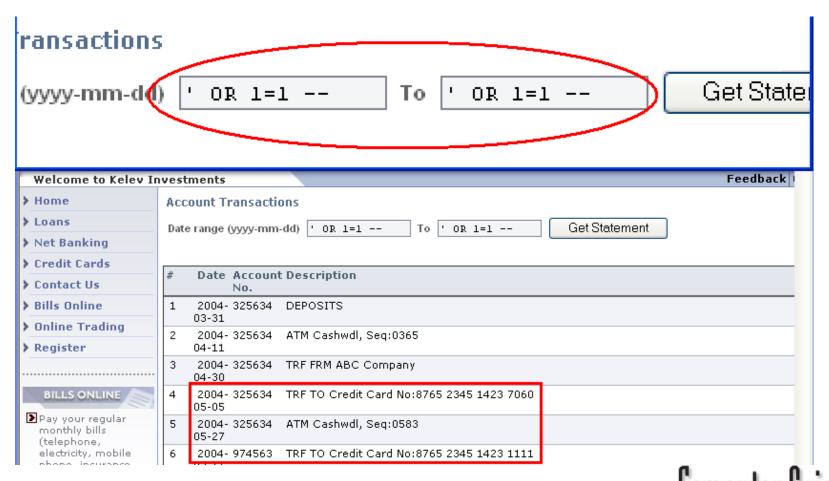
Expected input:

```
SELECT *FROM accounts
WHERE username = 'John'
AND tran_date >= '2005-01-01'
AND tran_date <= '2006-06-28'</pre>
```

Result: Returns John's transactions between given dates



Submitting SQL query logic instead of a valid date can expose confidential records.



NC STATE UNIVERSIT

```
String query = "SELECT * FROM accounts
    WHERE username = '" + strUName + "'
AND tran_date >= '" + strSDate + "'
AND tran_date <= '" + strEDate + "'";</pre>
```

Expected input:

```
SELECT * FROM accounts
WHERE username = 'John'
AND tran_date >= ''OR 1=1 --'
AND tran_date <= ''OR 1=1 --'</pre>
```

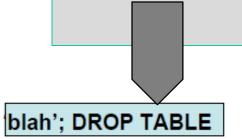
Result: Returns all saved transactions



SQL Injection – Drop Table

- What if the attacker had instead entered:
 - blah'; DROP TABLE prodinfo; --
- Results in the following SQL:
 - SELECT prodinfo FROM prodtable WHERE prodname = blah'; DROP TABLE prodinfo; --
 - Note how comment (--) consumes the final quote
- Causes the entire database to be deleted
 - Depends on knowledge of table name
 - This is sometimes exposed to the user in debug code called during a database error
 - Use non-obvious table names, and never expose them to user
- Usually data destruction is not your worst fear, as there is low economic motivation

Could be any SQL command; add data; delete rows, etc.



Union Injections

Return records from other tables or functions

SELECT header, txt FROM news UNION ALL SELECT name, pass FROM members

This will combine results from both news table and members table and return all of them.



- Any security checks that are performed on the client side, ensure that these checks are duplicated on the server side. Attackers can bypass the client-side checks by modifying values after the checks have been performed, or by changing the client to remove the client-side checks entirely.
- Even though client-side checks provide minimal benefits with respect to server-side security, they are still useful.
 - They can support intrusion detection. If the server receives input that should have been rejected by the client, then it may be an indication of an attack.
 - Client-side error-checking can provide helpful feedback to the user about the expectations for valid input.
 - Reduction in server-side processing time for accidental input errors.

- Blacklist list that specifies the format of input that should be rejected ("foes")
 - Example: '<> -- ; script
 - Enumerate the bad stuff
 - Don't allow anything on the blacklist
 - Drawback: infinite, easy to get around
 - Benefit: react quickly (often no re-compilation), straightforward
- Whitelist list that specifies the format of input that should be accepted ("friends")
 - Only accept known good input
 - Often done with regex's
 - Drawbacks:
 - Sometimes not possible to block certain characters
 - Often requires re-compilation and patches
 - Benefit: finite



- For blacklists and whitelists:
 - Considerations: length, type, syntax, business rules, special characters, checksum
 - Usually expressed as regular expressions
- Instead of blocking input, sanitize it
 - All input comes in, but it's manipulated
 - Convert it to something that won't be interpreted as code
 - Usually utilizes escape characters
 - e.g. HTML
 - < is <
 - e.g. Java
 - " is \"



- Prepared Statements: Pre-compiled parameterized SQL queries
 - A setter method sets a value to a bind variable as well as performs strong type checking and will nullify the effect of invalid characters, such as single quotes in the middle of a string.
 - setString(index, input), sets the bind variable in the SQL structure indicated by the index to input

```
String custname = request.getParameter("customerName"); // This should REALLY be validated too
// perform input validation to detect attacks
String query = "SELECT account_balance FROM user_data WHERE user_name = ? ";

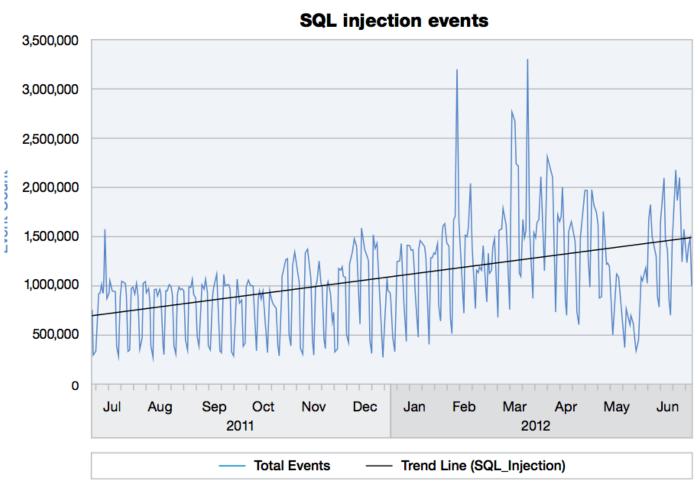
PreparedStatement pstmt = connection.prepareStatement( query );
pstmt.setString( 1, custname);
ResultSet results = pstmt.executeQuery( );
```



- Database Frameworks
 - e.g. Hibernate framework ... use createQuery()
- Use stored procedures
- Limit database permissions
- Use static analysis tools which can be trained to find injection vulnerabilities
- All mitigation methods have holes or can be misused.
- Defense in depth ... <u>use several!</u>

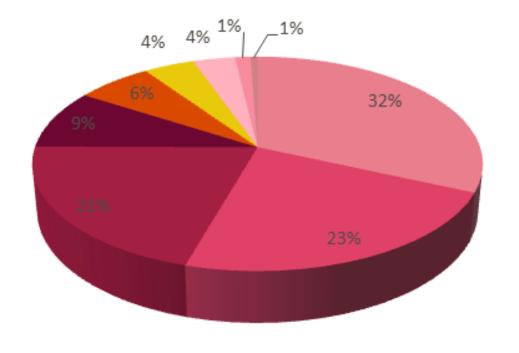


Prevent and Mitigate





SQL Injection Trends

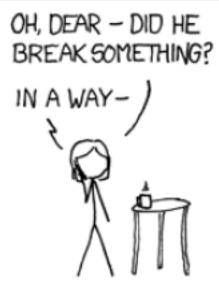


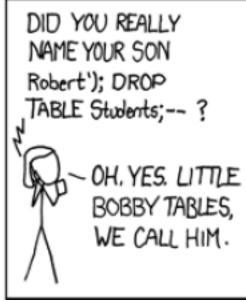
- SQL Servers UNION Query-based SQL Injection
- SQL Servers MySQL Vendorspecific SQL Injection
- SQL Servers Unauthorized Commands SQL Injection
- Havij Automated SQL Injection tool
- SQL Servers SQL Injection
 Evasion Techniques
- SQL Servers SQL Injection Evasion Techniques - ver 2
- SQL Servers Time-based SQL Injection



Bobby Tables











Class Exercise

- Use DVWA /SQL Injection (Blind Injunction)
- Use "View Source" to see the PHP serverside script
- Goal: Find the passwords

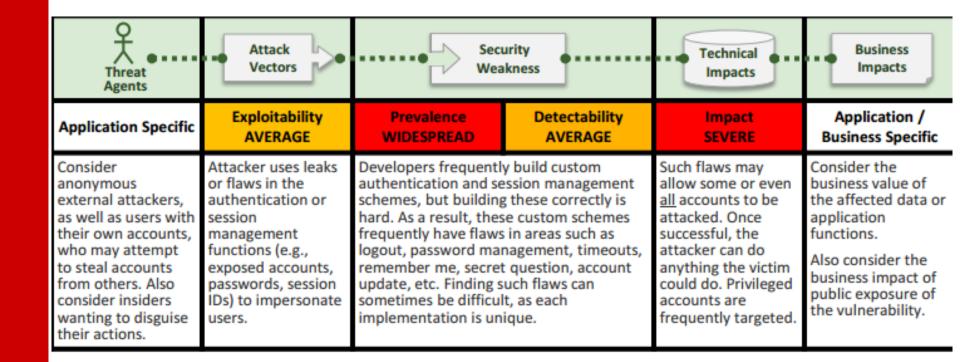


A2 – Broken Authentication and Session Management





A2 Overview



Session ID

- Session ID = a piece of data that is used in network communications to identify a session
 - Session = a series of related message exchanges
- Session ID is often a long, hashed, randomly generated string to decrease the probability of obtaining a valid one by means of a brute-force search
- Session ID become necessary when the communications infrastructure uses a stateless protocol, such as HTTP
- Session ID typically granted when a user first enters a site and are short lived
 - May expire after a preset time of inactivity
 - May become invalid after a certain goal has been met (for example, once the buyer has finalized his order, he cannot use the same session ID to add more items).
- As session IDs are often used to identify a user that has logged into a website, they can be used by an attacker to hijack a session and obtain potential privileges.

You may be vulnerable if:

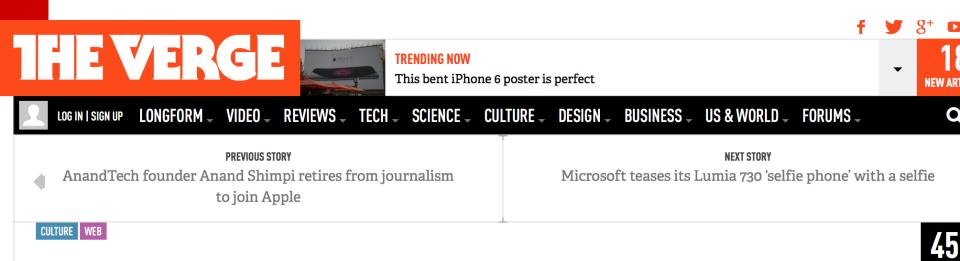
- User authentication credentials aren't protected when stored using hashing or encryption.
- Credentials can be guessed or overwritten through weak account management functions (e.g., account creation, change password, recover password, weak session IDs).
- Session IDs are exposed in the URL (e.g., URL rewriting) or hidden field.
- Session IDs don't timeout, or user sessions or authentication tokens, particularly single sign-on (SSO) tokens, aren't properly invalidated during logout.
- Passwords, session IDs, and other credentials are sent over unencrypted connections.
- Session ID can be obtained through XSS attack



Example Attacks

- **Scenario** #1: Airline reservations application supports URL rewriting, putting session IDs in the URL:
 - An authenticated user of the site wants to let his friends know about the sale. He e-mails the above link without knowing he is also giving away his session ID. When his friends use the link they will use his session and credit card.
- **Scenario** #2: Application's timeouts aren't set properly. User uses a public computer to access site. Instead of selecting "logout" the user simply closes the browser tab and walks away. Attacker uses the same browser an hour later, and that browser is still authenticated.
- **Scenario** #3: Insider or external attacker gains access to the system's password database. User passwords are not properly hashed, exposing every users' password to the attacker.

Bad password management ...



Hack leaks hundreds of nude celebrity photos

Jennifer Lawrence among stars whose pictures were stolen



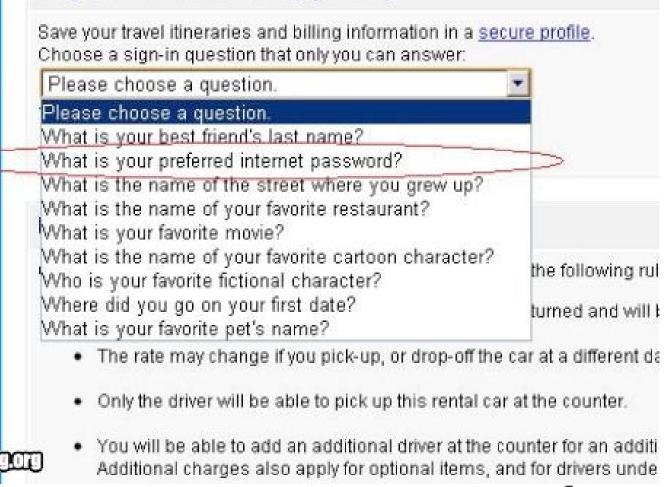
OWASP Password Guidelines

- Typical guidelines:
 - Password must meet at least 3 out of the following 4 complexity rules
 - at least 1 uppercase character (A-Z)
 - at least 1 lowercase character (a-z)
 - at least 1 digit (0-9)
 - at least 1 special character
- at least 10 characters
- at most 128 characters ... but enable passphrases
- Require the current credentials for an account before updating sensitive account information such as the user's password, user's email, or before sensitive transactions, such as shipping a purchase to a new address

Forgot password

- 1. Gather Identity Data or 1-2 Security Questions
 - May be available through organization already
 - Answers to questions should not be easily available through web searching or social engineering
 - Answers should be stable
- 2. Verify Security Questions
 - All or nothing on answering questions correctly
 - Limit number of tries
- 3. Send a Token Over a Side-Channel (multi-factor)
 - SMS or email
 - Limited lifetime (~ 20 minutes)
- 4. Allow user to change password in the existing session

Security Questions





Good Practices

- Don't pass SessionIDs in URL. Instead use non-persistent, httpOnly (so it is unavailable from client code) cookies instead
- Check that all requests in a session originate from the same address
- Session rotation (reassign session ID periodically) and Session timeout
 - Balance between security and usability
- Hash passwords
- Encrypt essential data, such as security questions
- Balance convenience and the ability to "remember me"
 - Consider bank versus Facebook
- Use a CAPTCHA to prevent automated attacks
- Consider multi-factor authentication (MFA): using more than one authentication factor to logon or process a transaction:
 - Something you know (account details or passwords)
 - Something you <u>have</u> (tokens or mobile phones)
 - Something you <u>are</u> (biometrics)







Class Exercise



A3 – Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

Threat Agents	Attack Vectors		urity	Technical	Business
Application Specific	Exploitability AVERAGE	Prevalence VERY WIDESPREAD	Detectability EASY	Impact MODERATE	Application / Business Specific
Consider anyone who can send untrusted data to the system, including external users, internal users, and administrators.	Attacker sends text- based attack scripts that exploit the interpreter in the browser. Almost any source of data can be an attack vector, including internal sources such as data from the database.	XSS is the most preva security flaw. XSS flaw application includes u a page sent to the bro properly validating or content. There are th XSS flaws: 1) Stored, 2 DOM based XSS. Detection of most XSS via testing or code an	ws occur when an user supplied data in owser without rescaping that uree known types of 2) Reflected, and 3) S flaws is fairly easy	Attackers can execute scripts in a victim's browser to hijack user sessions, deface web sites, insert hostile content, redirect users, hijack the user's browser using malware, etc.	Consider the business value of the affected system and all the data it processes. Also consider the business impact of public exposure of the vulnerability.



Cross-site Scripting (XSS)

- Condition: When untrusted input from the server or client is used to construct dynamic HTML web pages.
- Consequence: An attack can control the appearance of a web site, transfer sensitive data, and hijack the session to take control of the user's account.
- The vulnerability results because some data (input) is interpreted to be instructions (code) by the browser. In all XSS attacks, this execution of code is performed in the context of the vulnerable server.



Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

- Web application takes input from a user but fails to validate the input
- Input is echoed directly in a web page.
- Input could be malicious JavaScript, when echoed and interpreted in the destination browser any number of issues could result

Possible attack:

- When the victim is tricked to click on a crafted link (via web server or email), he is referred to the host in the URL
- The host processes the query string and echoes it to the victim's browser,
- The victim's browser executes the malicious script.

Cross Site Scripting

Reflected XSS

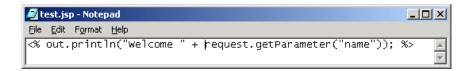
 Attacker-provided script is embedded in the web page generated by the server as an immediate response of an HTTP request or in an email. The client executes code in the context of the current user.

Stored XSS

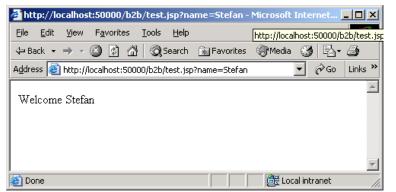
 Attacker-provided script is stored to a database or other persistent storage. Later, the script is retrieved and embedded in the web page generated by the server.

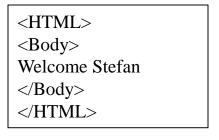


Cross Site Scripting – Reflected XSS

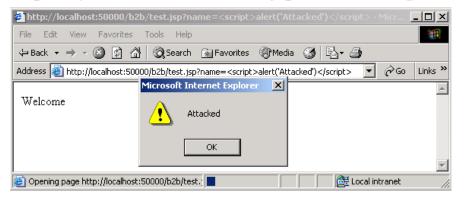


http://myserver.com/test.jsp?name=Stefan





http://myserver.com/welcome.jsp?name=<script>alert("Attacked")</script>

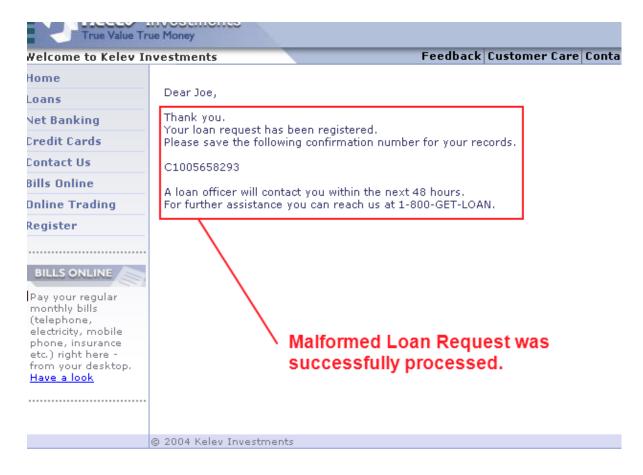


```
<HTML>
<Body>
Welcome <script>alert("Attacked")</script>
</Body>
</HTML>
```

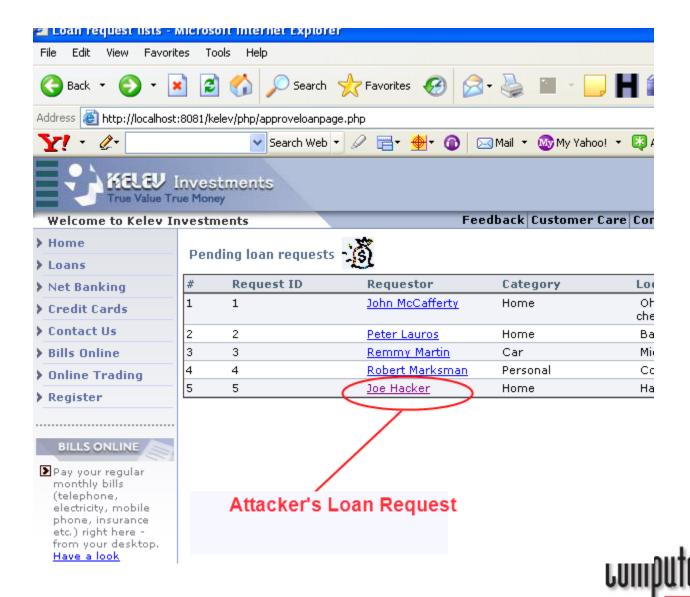


Investments		Feedback Customer Care Contact		
Online #	Application			
Persor	nal Information			
An asterix (*) indicates a required field.				
(0	* First Name Do not use nicknames)	Unvalidated Input (XSS)		
	Middle Initial	p /		
	* Last Name	Hacker		
	Social Security Number (format: xxx-xx-xxxx)	555-55-5555		
	* Birth Date (format yyyy-mm-dd)	1985-11-11		
	Mother's Maiden Name or security verification)	Foo		
	* Address	<script>alert(document.cookie)</script>		
Арр	artment/Room Number	123		
	* City	Hackville		
	* State	(Please Select State) 🗸		
	* Zip Code	90210		
	Telephone Number	555-555-5555		
	* Email	foo@foo.com		
	Occupation	Criminal		
	Annual Income	1500000		

From: www.itsa.ufl.edu/2006/presentations/malpani.ppt

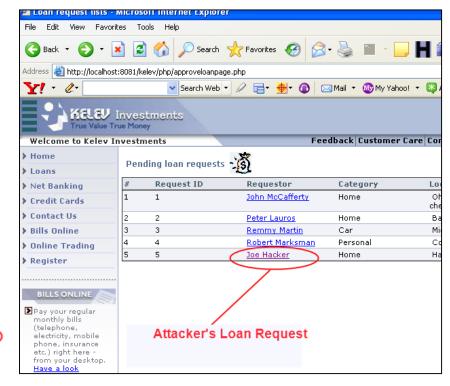






NC STATE UNIVERSITY

From: www.itsa.ufl.edu/2006/presentations/malpani.ppt





Unvalidated Input resulted in a Cross-Site Scripting Attack and the theft of the Administrator's Cookie



From: www.itsa.ufl.edu/2006/presentations/malpani.ppt

A script that causes a denial of service ...

```
article.php?title=<meta%20http-
equiv="refresh"%20content="0;">
```



Mitigation

- Input filtering (blacklist/whitelist)
- Output filtering (blacklist/whitelist)
- Available ... output encoding libraries
 - Microsoft's Anti-XSS library
 - OWASP ESAPI Encoding module
 - Encoding rules depend on context (HTML, HTML attribute, Script, URL query string, etc)
- The HttpOnly flag indicates that the cookie should not be available to the client script. Secure cookies indicate that the cookie holds sensitive data and should be sent only over an encrypted channel.

Testing for XSS

- Step 1: Identify where untrusted input can be used as output
 - Welcome message, error message, etc.
- Step 2: Test whether the input is not validated and valid HTML and script code can be executed

```
<script>alert("XSS")</script>
```



XSS Prevention

```
<script>...NEVER PUT UNTRUSTED DATA HERE...
directly in a script
<!--...NEVER PUT UNTRUSTED DATA HERE...->
inside an HTML comment

div ...NEVER PUT UNTRUSTED DATA HERE...=test />
in an attribute name

NEVER PUT UNTRUSTED DATA HERE... href="/test" /> in a tag name

<style>...NEVER PUT UNTRUSTED DATA HERE...</style> directly in CSS
```

XSS Resources

OWASP:

- https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-site Scripting (XSS)
- https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS Filter Evasion Cheat Sheet
- https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS (Cross Site Scripting) Prevention
 Cheat Sheet

Google Application Security:

https://www.google.com/about/appsecurity/learning/xss/

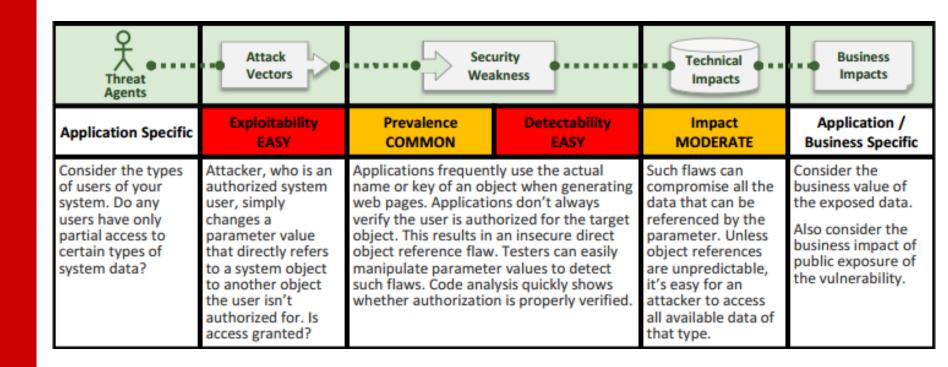


Class Exercise

- Use Gruyere to find 2 XSS vulnerabilities
 - Profile page (stored)
 - URL (reflected)



A4 – Broken Access Control





Example Attacks

The application uses unverified data in a SQL call that is accessing account information:

```
String query = "SELECT * FROM accts WHERE account = ?";
PreparedStatement pstmt = connection.prepareStatement(query , ... );
pstmt.setString( 1, request.getParameter("acct"));
ResultSet results = pstmt.executeQuery( );
```

The attacker simply modifies the 'acct' parameter in their browser to send whatever account number they want. If not verified, the attacker can access any user's account, instead of only the intended customer's account.

```
http://example.com/app/accountInfo?acct=notmyacct
```



Example Direct Objects

- The following direct objects are susceptible to an insecure direct object reference vulnerability:
 - Files and filenames
 - Registry keys
 - Ports and network resources
 - Tables, columns, and rows in a database



How to change parameter values

- URL parameters
- Cookies
- Form fields (including hidden variables)



There is no security through obscurity

Assume the attackers will find our internal conventions

If we have URLs like:

```
tic.com/Customers/View/2148102445
tic.com/Customers/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=2148102445
```

Attackers will try:

```
tic.com/Customers/Update/2148102445
tic.com/Customers/Modify.aspx?ID=2148102445
tic.com/Customers/admin
```



Insecure File Access through Directory Traversal

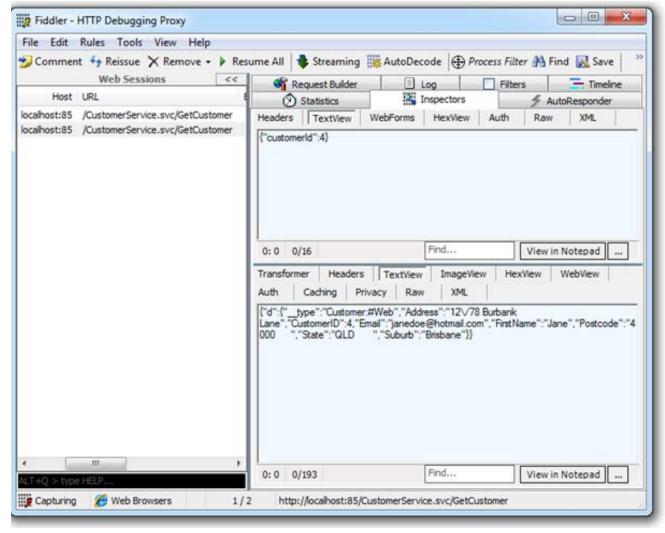
```
http://misc-security.com/file.jsp?file=report.txt
```

The attacker could modify the file parameter using a directory traversal attack. He modifies the URL to:

```
http://misc-security.com/file.jsp?file=**../../etc/shadow**
```



Bypassing Client-side Checking ...





Access Reference Map

Indirect Reference Direct Reference Service

Database

Mainframe

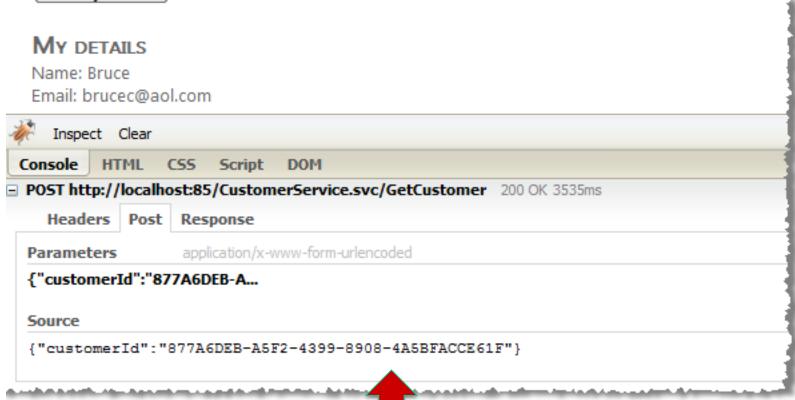
An indirect reference map is a substitution of the internal (discoverable, especially sequential) reference with an alternate ID which can be safely exposed externally.

- 1. Map is created on the server between the actual key and the substitution.
- 2. The key is translated to its substitution before being exposed to the UI.
- 3. After the substituted key is returned to the server, it's translated back to the original before the data is retrieved.



Defense in Depth ...

Get my details



http://myserver/index.jsp?getfileByID=2

... still, authentication checks are also absolutely essential!

Computer Science NC STATE UNIVERSITY

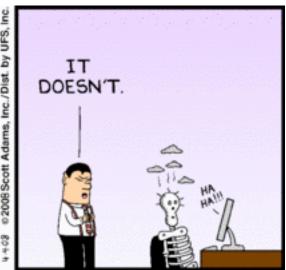
http://www.troyhunt.com/2010/09/owasp-top-10-for-net-developers-part-4.html http://martin-white.blogspot.com/2011/05/a4-insecure-direct-object-references.html

Prevention

- Validate input before using it. Evil input is the root cause of this threat. Check server side.
- Use per user or session indirect object references. This prevents attackers from directly targeting unauthorized resources. For example, instead of using the resource's database key, a drop down list of six resources authorized for the current user could use the numbers 1 to 6 to indicate which value the user selected. The application has to map the per-user indirect reference back to the actual database key on the server
- **Check access.** Each use of a direct object reference from an untrusted source must include an access control check to ensure the user is authorized for the requested object. Check at time of use!







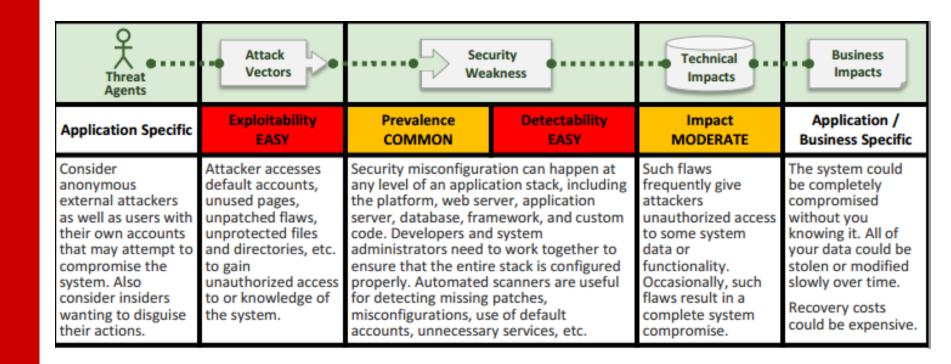


Class Exercise

- Answer questions
- Find direct object references



A5 – Security Misconfiguration





Misconfiguration Types

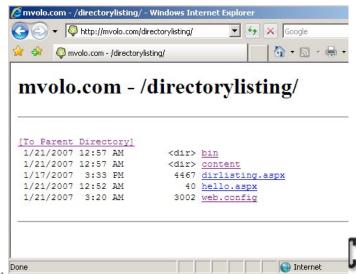
- **Missing patches:** Patches, hotfixes, service packs, and updates contain the latest security fixes and need to be applied when they are available.
- **Misconfigured or disabled security features**: If a security feature is disabled or not configured, it cannot provide protection.
- **Default accounts:** Default accounts may allow a malicious user to automatically login with the credentials published in product documentation.
- Unnecessary/unused services or features: These represent an increased risk for security defects. Bugs exist even in the best-written code, By disabling unused and unnecessary services, code, and DLLs, you limit the amount of code that needs to be maintained and patched. When in doubt, turn features off, and turn them back on only if you need them.
- Administrative back doors: Administrative back doors are known as front doors in the hacking community.



Example Attack Scenarios

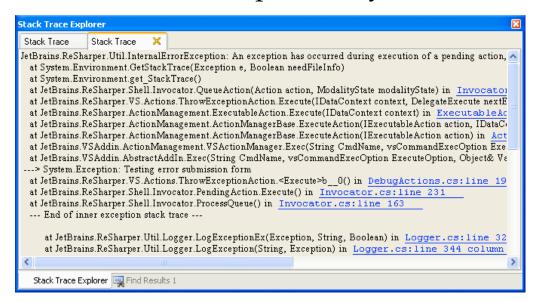
- **Scenario** #1: The app server admin console is automatically installed and not removed. Default accounts aren't changed. Attacker discovers the standard admin pages are on your server, logs in with default passwords, and takes over.
- **Scenario** #2: Directory listing is not disabled on your server. Attacker discovers she can simply list directories to find any file. Attacker finds and downloads all your compiled Java

classes, which she decompiles and reverse engineers to get all your custom code. She then finds a serious access control flaw in your application.



Example Attack Scenarios -2

- Scenario #3: App server configuration allows stack traces to be returned to users, potentially exposing underlying flaws.
 Attackers love the extra information error messages provide.
- **Scenario** #4: App server comes with sample applications that are not removed from your production server. Said sample applications have well known security flaws attackers can use to compromise your server.



Information Leakage via Comments

```
<TABLE border="0" cellPadding="0" cellSpacing="0" height="59" width="591">

<TBODY>

<TR>

<!--If the image files fail to load, check/restart 192.168.0.110 -->

<TD bgColor="#ffffff" colSpan="5" height="17" width="587" </TD>

</TR>
```

Provides host IP Address

Using nmap an attacker could send a few packets at your application server using the command, nmap -sv -p 80 192.168.1.100 and identify the following:

```
Interesting ports on 192.168.38.132:

PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION

80/tcp open http Apache httpd 1.3.37
```

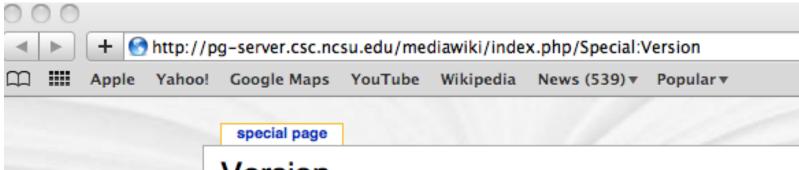
The attacker has now identified your Apache version and can now search for vulnerabilities affecting that version of Apache.



Google hacking

- Find Microsoft Excel files that contain login names and passwords
 - "login: *" "password: *" filetype:xls
- Locate passwords in plain text found in exposed log files
 - "your password is" filetype:log
- Discover insecure instances of the phpMyAdmin database front end
 - "Welcome to phpMyAdmin" "Create new database"
 - intitle:PhpMyAdmin "Welcome to phpMyAdmin***" running on * as root@*"
- Find human resources web sites from the internal intranet which are accessible to external users
 - intitle:intranet inurl:intranet +intext:"human resources"
- Search for private contact lists that have been synced up from PDA's or cell phones
 - contacts ext:wml





NC STATE UNIVERSITY

navigation

- Main Page
- Community portal
- Current events
- Recent changes
- Random page
- Help
- Donations

earch

Version

This wiki is powered by MediaWiki A, copyright (C) 2001-2006 Magnus N and others.

MediaWiki is free software; you can redistribute it and/or modify it under t or (at your option) any later version.

MediaWiki is distributed in the hope that it will be useful, but WITHOUT A See the GNU General Public License for more details.

You should have received a copy of the GNU General Public License

☐ a
1301, USA, or read it online ☐

- MediaWiki &: 1.6.10
- PHP

 4.3.9 (apache2handler)
- MySQL 2: 4.1.22-log

Now I search for vulnerabilities for these versions!



Prevention - 1

- A repeatable hardening process that makes it fast and easy to deploy another environment that is properly locked down. Development, QA, and production environments should all be configured identically (with different passwords used in each environment). This process should be automated to minimize the effort required to setup a new secure environment.
- A process for keeping abreast of and deploying all new software updates and patches in a timely manner to each deployed environment. This needs to include all code libraries as well. Vulnerability information on old versions is readily available. Threats change constantly!
- A strong application architecture that provides effective, secure separation between components.

Prevention - 2

- Running scans and doing audits periodically to help detect future misconfigurations or missing patches.
- Remove/change default credentials
- Disable or removed untrusted and unnecessary components or services
- Remove all unused pages and user accounts



Resources

- http://checklists.nist.gov
- http://scap.nist.gov/



Class Exercise

Answer questions

