

8. Java Web Application Security – Appendix

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Appendix ESAPI (for personal education)

Information about Validation Errors (1)

- To get more information why validation fails, ESAPI offers variations of the `getValidXY()` methods that take an additional parameter
 - The parameter has the type `ValidationErrorMessageList`
 - The passed object gets filled with the errors that happen during validation
- To demonstrate this, we use a second variant of `validateCCNumber()` in `Validation.java`:

```
public static String validateCCNumber(String input,
    ValidationErrorMessageList errors) {

    Validator validator = ESAPI.validator();
    String clean = validator.getValidCreditCard("CreditCard",
        input.trim(), false, errors);
    if (errors.isEmpty()) {
        return clean;
    } else {
        return null;
    }
}
```

Errors that occur during validation are inserted into a `ValidationErrorMessageList`. An empty list indicates successful validation (no exception is thrown).

Information about Validation Errors (2)

- We modify PurchaseServlet.java such that the new method is used
 - In addition to validating the credit card, any errors that occur during validation are **written to the Tomcat log**
 - This helps, e.g., to detect erroneous validation rules

```
// Validate the received data
ValidationErrors errors = new ValidationErrors();
if ((firstName = Validation.validatePersonName(firstName)) == null) {
    ...
} else if ((ccNumber = Validation.validateCCNumber(ccNumber, errors)) ==
    null) {
    message = "Please insert a valid credit card number";
    url = "/checkout";
    for (Object vo : errors.errors()) {
        log("Error (validateCCNumber): " +
            ((ValidationException) vo).getMessage());
    }
} else {
    // Store purchase in DB
```

Write the error messages to the Tomcat log

Information about Validation Errors (3)

- Entering an **invalid credit card number**...

First name:	<input type="text" value="John"/>
Last name:	<input type="text" value="Wayne"/>
Credit card number:	<input type="text" value="1111 2222 3333 444"/>

- ...results in the following **log entry**:

```
INFO: PurchaseServlet: Error (validateCCNumber): CreditCard:  
Invalid input. Please conform to regex ^(\d{4}[- ]?){3}\d{4}$  
with a maximum length of 19
```

- This also shows the regex used by the built-in method to check credit card number

Appendix JSF (for personal education)

JavaServer Faces

- **JavaServer Faces** is *the* Java EE component for developing user interfaces in web applications (view layer)
 - First version 1.0: 2004 (based on JSP)
 - **Current version 2.2**: 2013 (independent of JSP)
- JSF consists of:
 - Several prefabricated **UI components**
 - An **event-driven programming model**
- This appendix provides the following:
 - A (very) brief introduction to JSF using a simple application
 - How to develop **secure Java EE web applications with JSF**
 - This is done by re-implementing the Marketplace application (final servlet/JSP-based version) with JSF

A simple JSF Application (1)

- A user enters his **credentials** and clicks the **Login** button
- A **welcome screen** with the **username** is displayed



Please enter your name and password.

Name:

Password:

Login



Welcome to JavaServer Faces, Alice!

A simple JSF Application (2)

Ingredients of this application:

- **Two pages** for the logon and welcome screens: `index.xhtml` and `welcome.xhtml`
 - Since JSF 2.0, they are also called **Facelets**
 - JSF pages must follow the **xhtml** format (basically html that is proper XML)
- A **bean** `UserBean.java` that manages the data (a so called **managed or named bean**)
- A **deployment descriptor** `web.xml`

During JSF development, the developer primarily implements

- facelets (xhtml files) for the view and
- models (managed beans) for business logic and data management

Interaction between the facelets and the models is handled by JSF

A simple JSF Application – index.xhtml

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
      xmlns:h="http://java.sun.com/jsf/html">
  <h:head>
    <title>Welcome</title>
  </h:head>
  <h:body>
    <h:form>
      <h3>Please enter your name and password.</h3>
      <table>
        <tr>
          <td>Name:</td>
          <td><h:inputText value="#{user.name}" /></td>
        </tr>
        <tr>
          <td>Password:</td>
          <td><h:inputSecret value="#{user.password}" /></td>
        </tr>
      </table>
      <p><h:commandButton value="Login" action="welcome" /></p>
    </h:form>
  </h:body>
</html>
```

Import JSF tags (accessed with prefix h:)

Using a JSF tag, here inputText for a text field to input data

Input data is linked to a bean property → stored in the bean when the user submits the form

Next facelet to display when submitting the form (welcome.xhtml)

A simple JSF Application – UserBean.java

```
import java.io.Serializable;  
import javax.faces.bean.ManagedBean;  
import javax.faces.bean.SessionScoped;
```

Identify as managed bean with name user

```
@ManagedBean(name="user")
```

```
@SessionScoped
```

The bean lives during the entire session (other options RequestScoped, ViewScoped etc.)

```
@SuppressWarnings("serial")
```

```
public class UserBean implements Serializable {
```

```
    private String name;
```

```
    private String password;
```

Properties of the bean (corresponds to the entered displayed data in index.xhtml)

```
    public String getName() { return name; }
```

```
    public void setName(String newValue) { name = newValue; }
```

```
    public String getPassword() { return password; }
```

```
    public void setPassword(String newValue) { password = newValue; }
```

```
}
```

Getter and setter methods for the properties

A simple JSF Application – welcome.xhtml

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
      xmlns:h="http://java.sun.com/jsf/html">
  <h:head>
    <title>Welcome</title>
  </h:head>
  <h:body>
    <h3>Welcome to JavaServer Faces, #{user.name}!</h3>
  </h:body>
</html>
```

Output data is linked to a bean property → data stored in the bean is displayed

A simple JSF Application – web.xhtml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<web-app xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee"
  xmlns:web="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee/web-app_2_5.xsd"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee
  http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee/web-app_3_0.xsd"
  id="WebApp_ID" version="3.0">
```

```
<servlet>
  <servlet-name>Faces Servlet</servlet-name>
  <servlet-class>javax.faces.webapp.FacesServlet</servlet-class>
</servlet>
```

A JSF application consists of a single Faces servlet, which is provided by JSF

```
<servlet-mapping>
  <servlet-name>Faces Servlet</servlet-name>
  <url-pattern>/faces/*</url-pattern>
</servlet-mapping>
```

Welcome file, all facelets are accessed below /faces/ (per default)

```
<welcome-file-list>
  <welcome-file>faces/index.xhtml</welcome-file>
</welcome-file-list>
```

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>javax.faces.PROJECT_STAGE</param-name>
  <param-value>Development</param-value>
</context-param>
```

Useful for more detailed error messages during development, can be changed to Production

```
</web-app>
```

A simple JSF Application (3)

What happens in details (assume a fresh session):

- The user accesses `index.xhtml`
 - The server (the Faces servlet) **creates the page** for the user and also **creates a UserBean object** (as the bean `user` is used in `index.xhtml`)
- The user enters **name and password** and clicks **Login**
 - The browser sends a **POST request** (a `commandButton` always sends a POST request in JSF)
 - The server **stores the received data in the UserBean** object (as this is specified with `#{user.name}` and `#{user.password}`)
 - The server **creates the next page** (`welcome.xhtml`, this is specified in the action attribute in `index.html` and included in the POST request)
 - The server **includes the data from the UserBean** in the page (as this is specified with `#{user.name}`)
- If the user **reloads** `index.xhtml` subsequently, the input fields in the created page include the previously entered data
 - Because the bean still exists (SessionScoped)...
 - ...and data stored in beans is always automatically included in the fields

Marketplace with JSF

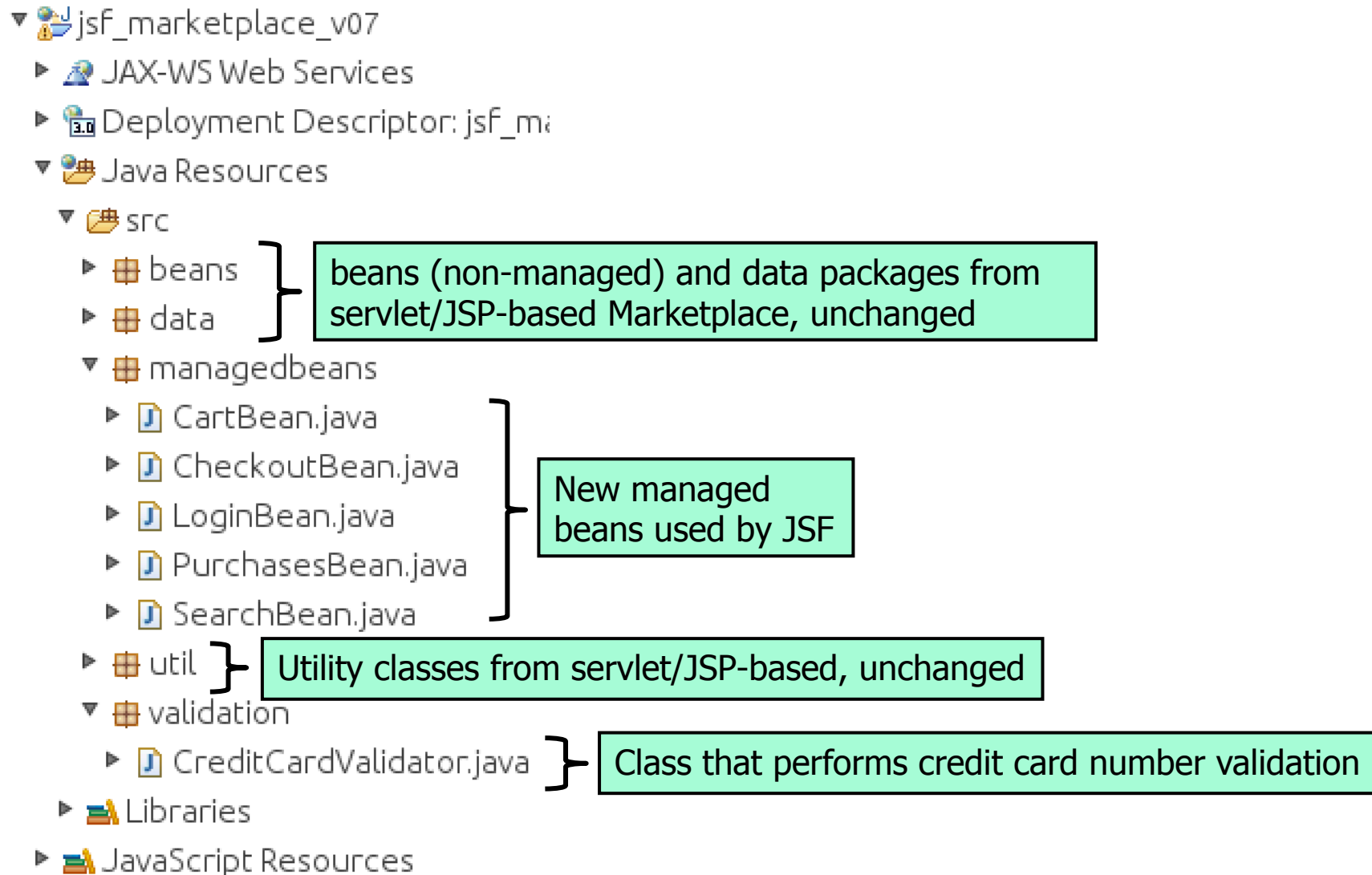
Just like with the servlet/JSP-based Marketplace application, we look at the various **security-relevant details** that must be addressed:

- Suppressing detailed error messages
- Data sanitation
- Secure database access
- Authentication
- Access Control
- Secure communication
- Session handling
- Input validation
- Cross-Site Request Forgery prevention

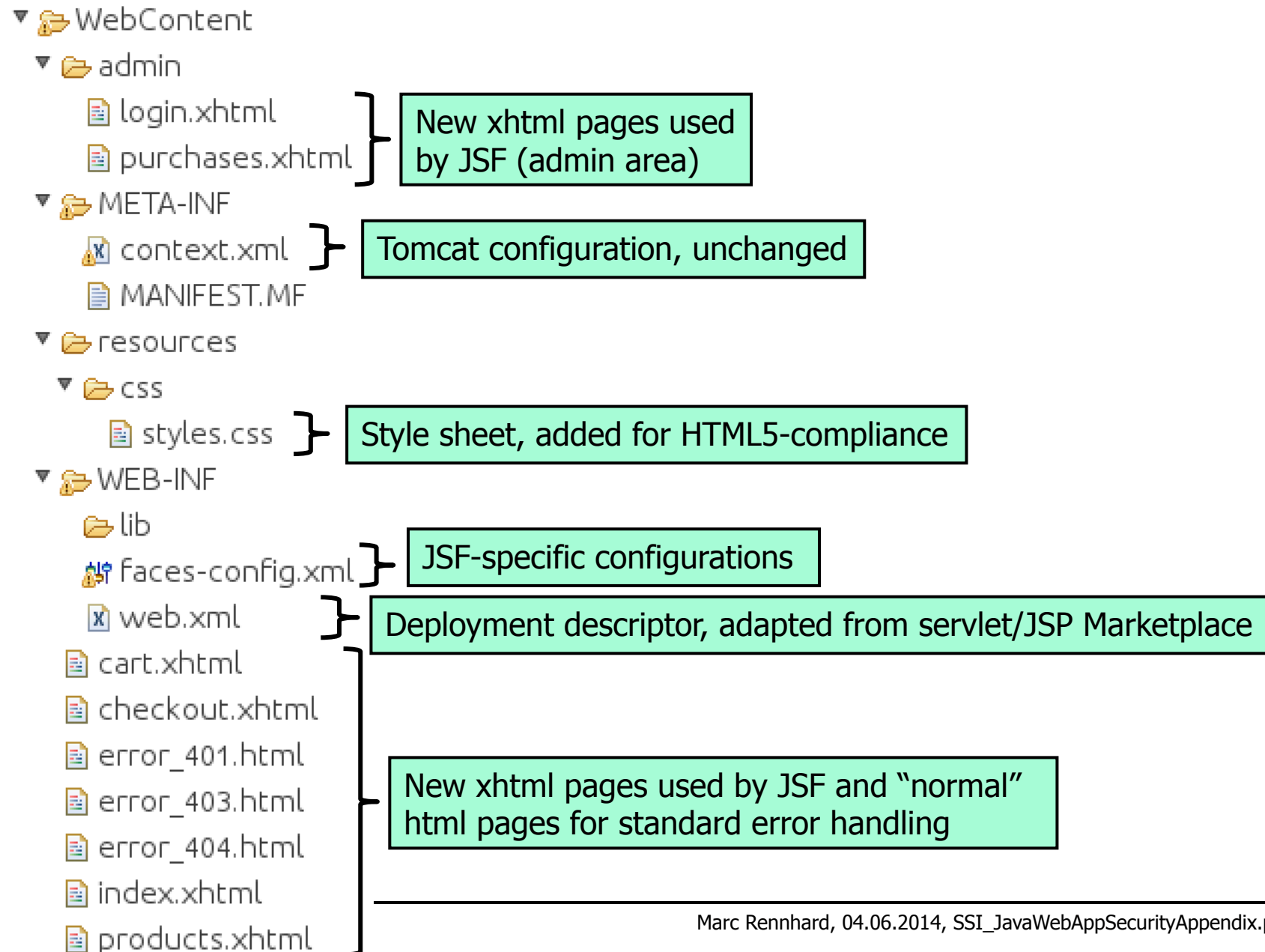
Marketplace with JSF – Libraries

- The JSF version of the Marketplace applications uses two **additional Java EE components** that are not supported by Tomcat out of the box
 - Remember that Tomcat is basically just a servlet runner
 - A fully compliant Java EE application such as GlassFish includes these libraries out of the box
- 1st required component: **JSF reference implementation**
 - <http://javaserverfaces.java.net>
- 2nd required component: **Bean Validation Framework** (see slides about input validation)
 - <http://validator.hibernate.org>

Marketplace with JSF – Project Organization (1)



Marketplace with JSF – Project Organization (2)



Standard Error Handling

- JSF allows to specify the **detail-level of error messages** in web.xml
 - Value `Development` delivers more information than `Production`

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>javax.faces.PROJECT_STAGE</param-name>
  <param-value>Development</param-value>
</context-param>
```

- However, `Production` simply outputs the **container-specific message**
 - Therefore, they should be suppressed using Java EE standard error handling, as done in the servlet/JSP-based Marketplace application

```
<error-page>
  <error-code>404</error-code>
  <location>/error_404.html</location>
</error-page>
...
```

Data Sanitation (1)

- Out of the box, JSF encodes (sanitises) critical characters in a similar way as when using the `out` tag in JSP files
 - `<`, `>`, and `"` are encoded to `<`, `>`, and `"`
 - As a result, JSF provides resistance against XSS / HTML injection per default

You searched for: `<script>alert("XSS");</script>`

No products match your search

- Page source:

```
<p>You searched for: &lt;script&gt;alert(&quot;XSS&quot;);&lt;/script&gt;</p>
```

Data Sanitation (2)

- Source code in `products.xhtml`:

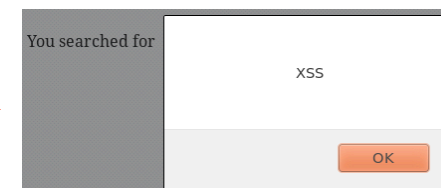
```
<p>You searched for: #{search.searchString}</p>
```

- Data sanitation can be deactivated by using the `outputText` tag and setting the `escape` attribute to `false`
 - But of course, this enables script/HTML injection attacks!

```
<p><h:outputText value="You searched for #{search.searchString}"
    escape="false" /></p>
```

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

Search



- Rule: Never set the `escape` attribute to `false` unless you have clear reasons to do so!
 - Per default, the `escape` attribute is `true`

Secure Database Access

- JSF is completely unrelated to database access
- Secure database access should be done in **exactly the same way** as with the servlet/JSP-based Marketplace application
 - Using **Prepared Statements** prevents SQL injection attacks, whether you use the statements directly or a ORM framework such as hibernate
- The difference is only **where** database access is implemented:
 - Servlet/JSP: In the servlet, which in our case used the classes in package data
 - JSF: In the **managed bean**, which uses the same classes in package data

Secure Database Access – Example

```
<h:form><table><tr>
  <td><h:inputText value="#{search.searchString}" /></td>
  <td><h:commandButton value="Search"
                        action="#{search.search}" /></td>
</tr></table></h:form>
```

When submitting the search form in index.xhtml, the search method in managed bean search is called

```
@ManagedBean(name="search") @SessionScoped
public class SearchBean implements Serializable {
  private String searchString;
  private List<Product> products;
  private String message;

  // Getter and setter for properties searchString etc. and
  // further methods omitted

  public String search() {
    products = ProductDB.searchProducts(searchString);
    return "/products";
  }
}
```

The search method uses ProductDB to perform the search

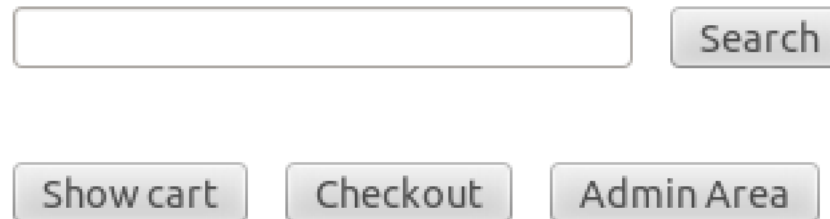
The returned string is used to determine the next page (action attribute in index.html) to display (here: products.xhtml)

Access Control and Authentication

- JSF is completely unrelated to authentication and access control
- Options to handle authentication and access control
 - Using **declarative** (container-based) security offered by Java EE
 - Using additional **programmatic** security features offered by Java EE
 - Using a **3rd party** security framework for Java EE (e.g. Spring Security)
 - Using a **homegrown** approach
- Here: We use the **declarative and programmatic features** offered by Java EE
 - In the same way as we have done in the final version of the servlet/JSP-based Marketplace application
 - One main difference: Access Control Annotations can only be used with servlets, which means we cannot use them with JSF
 - We therefore use security-constraints in `web.xml`
- The process and parts of the code are illustrated on the following slides

Access Control and Authentication – Login Button

- The Admin Area button on `index.xhtml` calls the `adminArea` method in the `login` managed bean



```
<h:form>
  <h:commandButton value="Admin Area" action="#{login.adminArea}" />
</h:form>
```

Access Control and Authentication – adminArea method

- If the user has role **sales or marketing**, he is forwarded to `admin/purchases.xhtml`
 - Just like with the servlet/JSP application, administrative resources are **placed below /admin/** to easily define security-constraints to restrict access (see `web.xml` later)
- Otherwise, he is forwarded to the **login page** (`admin/login.xhtml`)

```
@ManagedBean(name="login") @SessionScoped
public class LoginBean implements Serializable {
    @ManagedProperty(value="#{search}")
    private SearchBean search;
    private String username;
    private String password;

    public String adminArea() {
        FacesContext context = FacesContext.getCurrentInstance();
        HttpServletRequest request = (HttpServletRequest)
            context.getExternalContext().getRequest();
        if (request.isUserInRole("sales") || request.isUserInRole("marketing")) {
            return "/admin/purchases";
        } else {
            return "/admin/login?faces-redirect=true";
        }
    }

    // Other methods omitted
}
```

Access Control and Authentication – admin/login.xhtml

- This page presents the user a form to **enter the credentials**
- Clicking the Login button calls the **login method** in the `login` managed bean

Please enter your username and password to continue.

Username	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="password"/>
<input type="button" value="Login"/>	

```
<h:form>
  <table>
    <tr>
      <td align="right">Username</td>
      <td><h:inputText value="#{login.username}"/></td>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td align="right">Password</td>
      <td><h:inputSecret value="#{login.password}"/></td>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td><h:commandButton value="Login" action="#{login.login}"/></td>
    </tr>
  </table>
</h:form>
```

Access Control and Authentication – login method

- The login method performs the **programmatic login** (including salt)
- If successful, the user is forwarded to `admin/purchases.xhtml`, otherwise to `index.xhtml`

```
@ManagedBean(name="login") @SessionScoped
public class LoginBean implements Serializable {
    @ManagedProperty(value="#{search}")
    private SearchBean search;
    private String username; private String password;

    public String login() {
        String salt = LoginDB.getSalt(username);
        try {
            String digest = Crypto.printHex(Crypto.computeSHA1(password + salt));
            FacesContext context = FacesContext.getCurrentInstance();
            HttpServletRequest request = (HttpServletRequest)
                context.getExternalContext().getRequest();

            request.login(username, digest);
            return "/admin/purchases";
        } catch (Exception e) {
            search.setMessage("Login failed.");
            return "/index";
        }
    }
    // Other methods omitted
}
```

- ```
<h:dataTable value="#{purchases.purchases}" var="purchase"
 rendered="#{purchases.numberOfPurchases != 0}">
 <h:column>
 <f:facet name="header">First Name</f:facet>
 #{purchase.firstName}
 </h:column>
 <h:column>
 <f:facet name="header">Last Name</f:facet>
 #{purchase.lastName}
 </h:column>
 ...
</h:column>
 <h:column rendered="#{request.isUserInRole('sales')}">
 <h:form>
 <h:commandLink value="Complete Purchase"
 action="#{purchases.completePurchase(purchase.id)}/>
 </h:form>
 </h:column>
</h:dataTable>
```
- purchases method of purchases bean returns a List of purchase objects that contain the table data
- The rendered attribute is used to display a column or not
- Call completePurchase in the purchases managed bean to complete a purchase

# Access Control and Authentication – purchases bean (1)

- This managed bean `purchases` handles the data of the purchases and interacts with the database

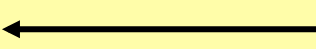
```
@ManagedBean(name="purchases") @ViewScoped
public class PurchasesBean implements Serializable {
 private List<Purchase> purchases; private String message;

 public PurchasesBean() {
 purchases();
 }

 public List<Purchase> getPurchases() {
 return purchases;
 }

 public String getMessage() {
 String returnMessage = message;
 message = "";
 return returnMessage;
 }

 ...
}
```



Constructor, fetch the purchases from the database

# Access Control and Authentication – purchases bean (2)

```
...

public int getNumberOfPurchases() {
 if (purchases == null || purchases.size() == 0) {
 return 0;
 } else {
 return purchases.size();
 }
}

public String completePurchase(int purchaseId) {

 // Get the purchaseId to delete and delete it
 if (PurchaseDB.delete(purchaseId) != 1) {
 message = "A problem occurred when completing the purchase";
 } else {
 message = "Purchase completed";
 }
 return "/admin/purchases";
}

private void purchases() {
 purchases = PurchaseDB.getPurchases();
}
}
```

Complete a purchase and display  
again /admin/purchases.xhtml

Fetch the purchases  
from the database

## Access Control and Authentication – Logout Button on `admin/purchases.xhtml`

- The Logout button on `admin/purchases.xhtml` calls the `logout` method in the `login` managed bean, which logs out the user and shows `index.xhtml`

Return to search page

Logout and return to search page

```
<h:form>
 <h:commandButton value="Logout and return to search page"
 action="#{login.logout}" />
</h:form>
```

```
public String logout() {
 FacesContext context = FacesContext.getCurrentInstance();
 HttpServletRequest request = (HttpServletRequest)
 context.getExternalContext().getRequest();

 try {
 request.logout();
 } catch (Exception e) {}
 search.setMessage("You have been logged off.");
 return "/index";
}
```



# Access Control and Secure Communication – web.xml (1)

- Finally, **security-constraints** in web.xml are needed
  - In addition, secure communication is enforced for selected areas

```
<security-constraint>
 <web-resource-collection>
 <web-resource-name>Admin Area</web-resource-name>
 <url-pattern>/admin/*</url-pattern>
 </web-resource-collection>
 <auth-constraint>
 <role-name>sales</role-name>
 <role-name>marketing</role-name>
 </auth-constraint>
 <user-data-constraint>
 <transport-guarantee>CONFIDENTIAL</transport-guarantee>
 </user-data-constraint>
</security-constraint>
...
```

Allow access to resources in /admin/\* (login.xhtml and purchases.xhtml) only to roles sales and marketing and only over TLS

# Access Control and Secure Communication – web.xml (2)

```
...
<security-constraint>
 <web-resource-collection>
 <web-resource-name>Purchase</web-resource-name>
 <url-pattern>/checkout.jsf</url-pattern>
 </web-resource-collection>
 <user-data-constraint>
 <transport-guarantee>CONFIDENTIAL</transport-guarantee>
 </user-data-constraint>
</security-constraint>
<security-constraint>
 <web-resource-collection>
 <web-resource-name>Login page</web-resource-name>
 <url-pattern>/admin/login.jsf</url-pattern>
 </web-resource-collection>
 <user-data-constraint>
 <transport-guarantee>CONFIDENTIAL</transport-guarantee>
 </user-data-constraint>
</security-constraint>
...
```

Allow access to checkout.jsf  
only over TLS

Allow access /admin/login.jsf to  
everyone, but only over TLS

# Access Control and Secure Communication – web.xml (3)

```
...
<security-constraint>
 <web-resource-collection>
 <web-resource-name>restricted methods</web-resource-name>
 <url-pattern>/*</url-pattern>
 <url-pattern>/admin/*</url-pattern>
 <url-pattern>/checkout.jsf</url-pattern>
 <http-method-omission>GET</http-method>
 <http-method-omission>POST</http-method>
 </web-resource-collection>
 <auth-constraint/>
</security-constraint>
```

Allow only GET and POST

# Access Control, Authentication and Secure Communication – Final Remarks

- **Session (ID) handling** is controlled by Java EE/Tomcat and works exactly the same as analyzed with the servlet/JSP-based application
  - But remember; this only works if the declarative / programmatic security features of Java EE – as we have done here – are used
- **Security-constraints** are used with servlets/JSPs and with JSF to restrict access to resources
  - With servlets/JSPs, they are used to specify which servlets can be accessed by whom and how
  - With JSF, they are used to specify which xhtml files can be accessed
- With the servlet/JSP-base application, we had to move most JSP files **below /WEB-INF** to make sure they cannot be accessed directly
  - With JSF, this is not necessary (at least in this case), as the user is allowed to access all xhtml files directly

# Input Validation

- JSF provides two ways to perform input validation:
  - Using [JSF validators](#) within JSF pages
  - By using the [Bean Validation Framework](#) (which is part of Java EE)
- Both variants are illustrated using the [checkout process](#)
  - The validation rules are the same as with the servlet/JSP application

Please insert the following information to complete your purchase:

First name:

Last name:

Credit card number:

Purchase

## Standard JSF Validation – First Name

- First name must match the regex `^[a-zA-Z']{2,32}$`
- This can directly be integrated into `checkout.xhtml`

```
<h:form rendered="#{cart.count != 0}">
 <h:panelGrid columns="3">
 First name:
 <h:inputText id="firstname" value="#{checkout.firstName}"
 label="First name" validatorMessage="Please insert a
 valid first name (between 2 and 32 characters)">
 <f:validateRegex pattern="^[a-zA-Z']{2,32}$"/>
 </h:inputText>
 <h:message for="firstname" errorClass="errors"/>
 ...

 </h:panelGrid>
 <h:commandButton value="Purchase" action="#{checkout.purchase}"/>
</h:form>
```

validatorMessage: Message to display if validation fails

validateRegex: The regex used for validation

Prints the message if validation fails

## Custom JSF Validation – Credit Card Number (1)

- Credit card number must be **valid**
- Can not be expressed in a regex → write a **custom JSF validator**
  - This slide shows usage of the custom validator in the JSF page, the next one shows the implementation of the validator itself

```
<h:form rendered="#{cart.count != 0}">
 <h:panelGrid columns="3">
 ...

 Credit card number:
 <h:inputText id="ccnumber" value="#{checkout.ccNumber}"
 label="Credit card number">
 <f:validator validatorId="validation.CreditCardValidator"/>
 </h:inputText>
 <h:message for="ccnumber" errorClass="errors"/>

 </h:panelGrid>
 <h:commandButton value="Purchase" action="#{checkout.purchase}"/>
</h:form>
```

Use the custom Validator with name validation.CreditCardValidator

Prints the message (which is defined in the custom validator implementation) if validation fails

## Custom JSF Validation – Credit Card Number (2)

```
@FacesValidator("validation.CreditCardValidator")
public class CreditCardValidator implements Validator {

 public void validate(FacesContext context, UIComponent component,
 Object value) {
 String rawValue = (String) value;
 String numberValue = rawValue.replaceAll("\\D", ""); // remove non-digits
 if(!checkRawFormat(rawValue) || !luhnCheck(numberValue)) {
 FacesMessage message = new FacesMessage("Please insert a valid credit
 card number (16 digits)");
 message.setSeverity(FacesMessage.SEVERITY_ERROR);
 throw new ValidatorException(message);
 }
 }

 private static boolean checkRawFormat(String number) {
 return number.matches("^\\d{4}[]?\\d{4}[]?\\d{4}[]?\\d{4}$");
 }

 private static boolean luhnCheck(String cardNumber) {
 // returns whether the card number checksum is correct (see below)
 }
}
```

A custom validator implements the Validator interface and implements the validate method

- If validation succeeds, the method should return normally
- If validation fails, throw a ValidatorException, which can include a message, which is included in the JSF page using the h:message tag



## Bean Validation – Last Name (1)

- **Bean validation** is not part of JSF, but of Java EE (since Java EE 6)
- Bean validation can be **well-integrated with JSF**
  - Advantage: if a managed bean is manipulated via multiple JSF pages, validation must only be implemented in one place (the bean)
- **Last name** must match the **regex** `^[a-zA-Z']{2,32}$`

```
@ManagedBean(name="checkout") @SessionScoped
public class CheckoutBean implements Serializable {
 ...
 private String firstName;
 @Pattern(regexp="^[a-zA-Z']{2,32}$",
 message="Please insert a valid last name (between 2 and
 32 characters)")
 private String lastName;
 private String ccNumber;
 private String message;

 ...
}
```

Use @Pattern to  
match a regex,  
applies to the next  
property (lastName)

Use this error message  
if validation fails

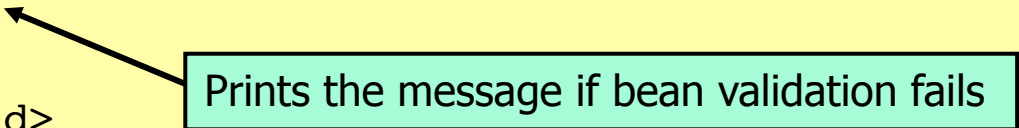
## Bean Validation – Last Name (2)

- In `checkout.xhtml`, **no validation checks** are included for the last name, only a `h:message` tag to print the error message if validation fails

```
<h:form rendered="#{cart.count != 0}">
 <h:panelGrid columns="3">
 ...

 Last name:
 <h:inputText id="lastname" value="#{checkout.lastName}"
 label="Last name"/>
 <h:message for="lastname" errorClass="errors"/>

 ...
 </h:panelGrid>
 <h:commandButton value="Purchase" action="#{checkout.purchase}"/>
</h:form>
```



# Effect of JSF Validation and Bean Validation – and Limitations

← <https://localhost:8443/marketplace/checkout.jsf>

## Checkout

Please insert the following information to complete your purchase:

First name:	<input type="text" value="a"/>	<i>Please insert a valid first name (between 2 and 32 characters)</i>
Last name:	<input type="text" value="ABCDefgh/"/>	<i>Please insert a valid last name (between 2 and 32 characters)</i>
Credit card number:	<input type="text" value="1111 2222 3333 4445"/>	<i>Please insert a valid credit card number (16 digits)</i>

- JSF and bean validation both have a limitation: They only validate, but do **not perform any normalization**
  - That's OK if you do not consider encoded content a problem (or if the allowed characters do not allow any meaningful encoding)
  - If you need normalization, you can use **ESAPI**, e.g. by writing custom JSF validators that themselves use ESAPI

# Cross Site Request Forgery Protection (1)

- For **POST** requests, JSF offers CSRF protection since 2.0
  - This is done with a hidden field named `javax.faces.ViewState`
    - This viewstate is basically computed over the page displayed to the user
  - Since JSF 2.2, the value is encrypted per default and is considered to be secure enough for CSRF protection
  - This is activated per default, so you don't have to configure anything
- In addition, JSF offers a **CSRF token since 2.2**
  - This allows also to protect **GET** request
  - Can also be used for POSTs, but this is not necessary due to viewstate
  - It is necessary to configure the resources where the CSRF token should be used in `faces-config.xml`

## Cross Site Request Forgery Protection (2)

- As an example, we configure JSF to use the **CSRF token when accessing the cart** (`cart.xhtml`)
- Necessary configuration in `faces-config.xml`:
  - For multiple resources, use multiple `url-pattern` tags

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<faces-config version="2.2" xmlns="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/
 javaee"
 xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
 xsi:schemaLocation="http://xmlns.jcp.org/xml/ns/javaee
 http://xmlns.jcp.org/xml/ns/javaee/web-facesconfig_2_2.xsd">
 <protected-views>
 <url-pattern>/cart.xhtml</url-pattern>
 </protected-views>
</faces-config>
```

# Cross Site Request Forgery Protection (3)

- Resulting page index.xhtml:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"><head id="j_idt2">
 <title>Marketplace</title><link type="text/css" rel="stylesheet" href="/marketplace/javax.faces.resource/styles.css.jsf?ln=css" /></head><bc

<h1>Welcome to the Marketplace</h1>

<p></p>

<p>To search for products, enter any search string below and click the Search button</p>
<form id="j_idt7" name="j_idt7" method="post" action="/marketplace/index.jsf" enctype="application/x-www-form-urlencoded">
<input type="hidden" name="j_idt7" value="j_idt7" />

 <table>
 <tr>
 <td><input type="text" name="j_idt7:j_idt9" /></td>
 <td><input type="submit" name="j_idt7:j_idt11" value="Search" /></td>
 </tr>
 </table>
 <input type="hidden" name="javax.faces.ViewState" id="j_id1:javax.faces.ViewState:0" value="1321604271034931438:3704877409165595279"
</form>

<table>
 <tr>
 <td><input type="button" onclick="window.location.href='/marketplace/cart.jsf?javax.faces.Token=1392551797297'; return false;" value="Show
 </td>
 <td><input type="button" onclick="window.location.href='/marketplace/checkout.jsf'; return false;" value="Checkout" />
 </td>
 </tr>
</table>
<form id="j_idt18" name="j_idt18" method="post" action="/marketplace/index.jsf" enctype="application/x-www-form-urlencoded">
<input type="hidden" name="j_idt18" value="j_idt18" />
<input type="submit" name="j_idt18:j_idt19" value="Admin Area" /><input type="hidden" name="javax.faces.ViewState" id="j_id1:javax.faces.View
</form>
</td>
</tr>
</table></body>
</html>
```

Hidden viewstate field with POSTs

CSRF token in GET request for cart

# Security Features Servlet/JSP vs. JSF

	Servlet/JSP	JSF
Standard error handling	Configure standard error pages in <code>web.xml</code>	
Data sanitation	Use <code>c:out</code> tag in JSP file	Works per default
Secure database access	Use prepared statements or a ORM framework that itself uses prepared statements	
Authentication, Access Control, Secure Communication	Use <b>declarative/programmatic</b> security offered by Java EE (or 3 <sup>rd</sup> party security framework or homegrown approach)	
Session Handling	Correctly done by Tomcat/Java EE if <b>declarative/programmatic</b> security offered by Java EE is used	
Input Validation	Use ESAPI (or another 3 <sup>rd</sup> party library)	Use JSF Validation or Bean Validation (or ESAPI if normalization is necessary)
CSRF Protection	Use a 3 <sup>rd</sup> party library or implement an own token-based approach	Use JSF built-in CSRF protection