Lecture 10 – Misc Topics

Dr. Gerhard Hancke CS Department City University of Hong Kong

Slides partially adapted from lecture notes by Goodrich, Tamassia, Stallings, Brown, Boneh, Song

Today's Lecture

- Selected topics
- Aspects of Network and System Security
 - -Web Security
- CILO1,CILO2 and CILO4
 (Data security, security requirements, security assessment)

Web Security

Web Browser: Running Remote Code is Risky

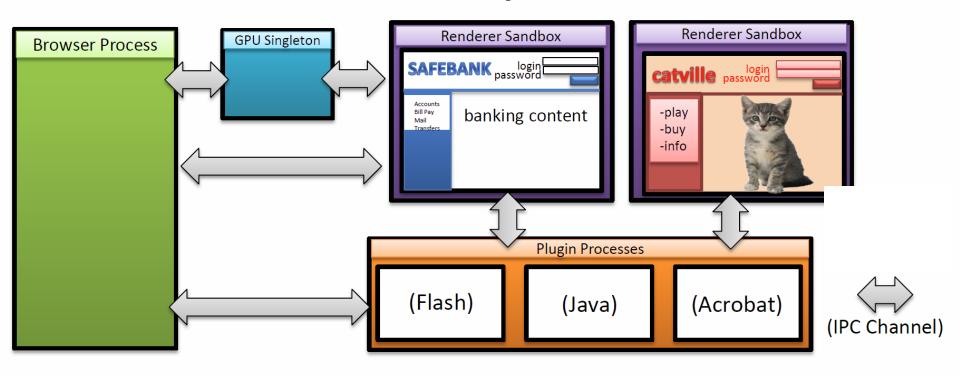
- Integrity
 - Compromise your machine
 - Install malware
 - Transact on your accounts

- Confidentiality
 - Read your information
 - Steal passwords



Isolation

Chrome Security Architecture



Isolation: Separate web applications from each other, and separate browser components from each other

Principal of Least Privilege: Give components only the permissions they need to operate

Browser Sandbox

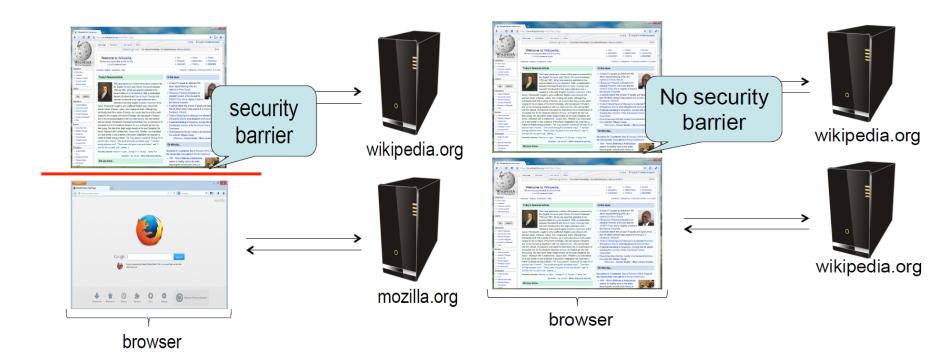
Goal

- Run remote web applications safely
- Limited access to OS, network, and browser data

Approach

- Isolate sites in different security contexts
- Browser manages resources, like an OS

Same Origin Policy



Same Origin Policy

To isolate content retrieved by different parties

Same-origin policy for Javascript/DOM

Two documents have the same origin if:

Same **protocol**

(https, http, ftp, etc)

Same domain

(safebank.com, etc)

Same **port**

(80, 23, 8080, etc)

Results of same-origin checks against "http://cards.safebank.com/c1/info.html"

Same origin:

"http://cards.safebank.com/c2/edit.html"

Different origin:

"http://www.cards.safebank.com"

"http://catville.com"

"https://cards.safebank.com"

"http://cards.safebank:8080"

Same-origin policy for Cookies

Two documents have the same origin if: (optional)

Same **protocol** ← (https, http, ftp, etc)

Same **domain** * (safeb

(safebank.com, etc)

Same **Path **** (/, /c1/, etc)

host="cards.safebank.com"

allowed domains:

disallowed domains:

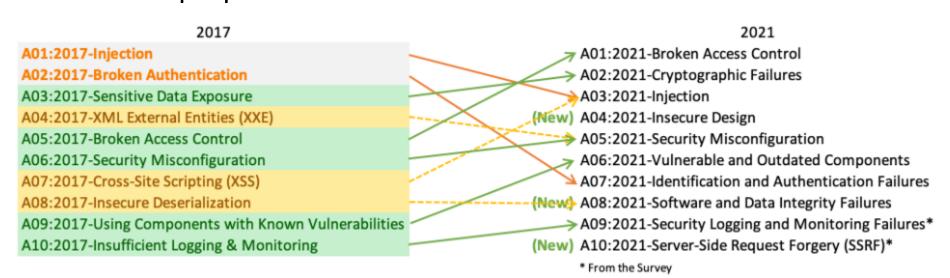
cards.safebank.com .safebank.com

tos.safebank.com catville.com .com

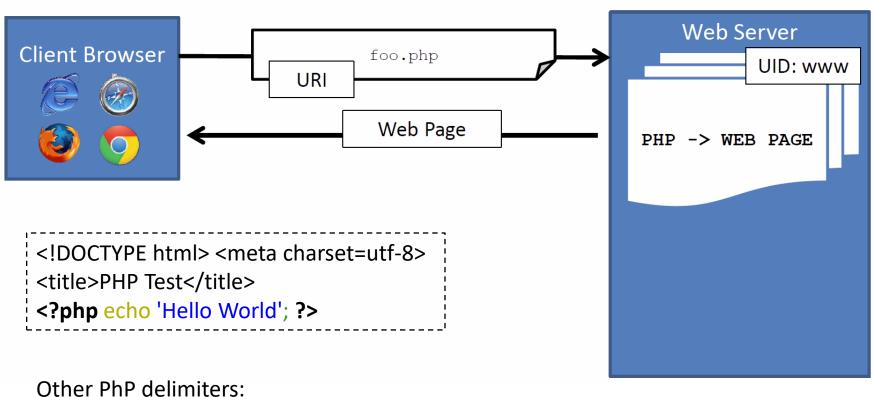
** however, cookies can be accessed across different paths via the DOM

Common web vulnerabilities

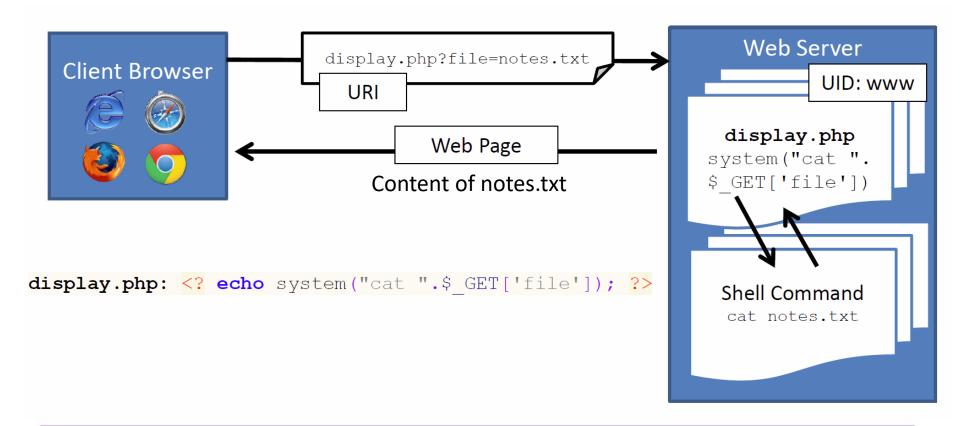
- Refer to OWASP Top 10
- Injection (#1 2017, #3 2021)
 - Browser sends malicious input to server
 - Cross Site Scripting (XSS) (#7 2017, #3 2021)
- Broken Authentication/Session (#2 2017, #7 2021)
 - Improper use authentication



Background: Injection



```
<? echo 'Hello World'; ?>
<script language = "php"> echo 'Hello World'; </script>
```



IN THIS EXAMPLE

<? php-code ?> executes php-code at this point in the document

echo expr: evaluates expr and embeds in doc

system(call, args) performs a system call in the working directory

" ", ' ' String literal. Double-quotes has more possible escaped characters.

(dot). Concatenates strings.

_GET['key'] returns value corresponding to the key/value pair sent as extra data in the

HTTP GET request

Command Injection

```
display.php: <? echo system("cat ".$_GET['file']); ?>
```

Q: Assuming the script we've been dealing with (reproduced above) for http://www.example.net/display.php. Which one of the following URIs is an attack URI?

Hint: Search for a URI Decoder to figure out values seen by the PHP code.

- a. http://www.example.net/display.php?get=rm
- b. http://www.example.net/display.php?file=rm%20-rf%20%2F%3B
- c. http://www.example.net/display.php?file=notes.txt%3B%20rm%20-rf%20%2F%3B%0A%0A
- d. http://www.example.net/display.php?file=%20%20%20%20%20
 - Recall that special characters are encoded as hex:
 - %0A = newline
 - %20 or + = space, %2B = + (special exception)
 - more see ACSII Table

Command Injection

```
display.php: <? echo system("cat ".$_GET['file']); ?>
```

Q: Assuming the script we've been dealing with (reproduced above) for http://www.example.net/display.php. Which one of the following URIs is an attack URI?

Hint: Search for a URI Decoder to figure out values seen by the PHP code.

(URIs decoded)

```
a. http://www.example.net/display.php?get=rm
b. http://www.example.net/display.php?file=rm -rf /;
c. http://www.example.net/display.php?file=notes.txt; rm -rf /;
d. http://www.example.net/display.php?file=
```

Command Injection

```
display.php: <? echo system("cat ".$_GET['file']); ?>
```

Q: Assuming the script we've been dealing with (reproduced above) for http://www.example.net/display.php. Which one of the following URIs is an attack URI?

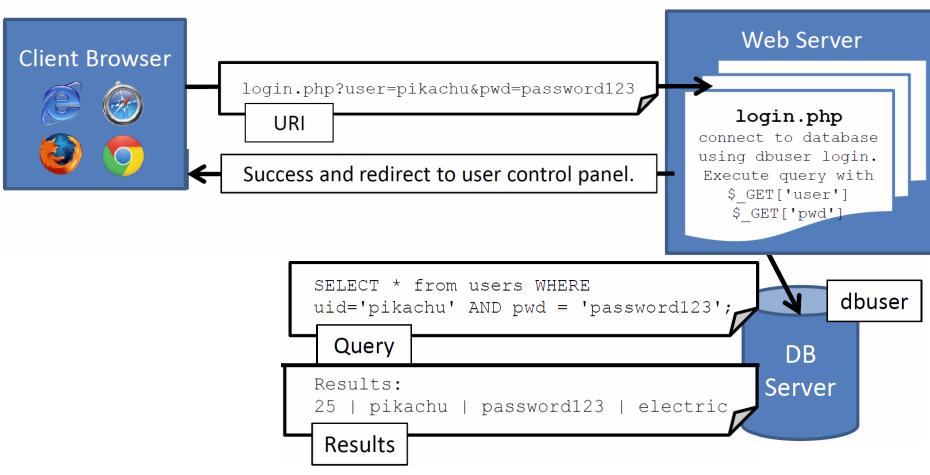
Hint: Search for a URI Decoder to figure out values seen by the PHP code.

(Resulting php)

```
a. <? echo system("cat rm"); ?>
b. <? echo system("cat rm -rf /;"); ?>
c. <? echo system("cat notes.txt; rm -rf /;"); ?>
d. <? echo system("cat "); ?>
```

 Consider a webpage that logs in a user by seeing if a user exists with a given name and password

• If result exists, logs in the user and redirects the user to the user control panel



• Is it safe?

 Which of the following queries log you in as admin? Hint: the SQL language supports comments via '--' characters

```
a. http://www.example.net/login.php?user=admin&pwd='
b. http://www.example.net/login.php?user=admin--&pwd=foo
c. http://www.example.net/login.php?user=admin'--&pwd=f
```

```
login.php:
    $result = pg query("SELECT * from users WHERE
                          uid = '".$ GET['user']."' AND
                          pwd = '".$ GET['pwd']."';");
    if (pg query num($result) > 0) {
        echo "Success";
        user control panel redirect();
URI:http://www.example.net/login.php?user=admin'--&pwd=f
 pg query ("SELECT * from users WHERE
               uid = 'admin'--' AND pwd = 'f';");
                                                The "--" causes
 pg_query("SELECT * from users WHERE
                                                 rest of line to be
               uid = 'admin';");
                                                 ignored.
```

easy login to many sites this way.

 Under the same premise, which URI can delete users table in database?

```
a. www.example.net/login.php?user=;DROP TABLE users;--
b. www.example.net/login.php?user=admin%27%3B%20DROP%20TABLE%20users--%3B&pwd=f
c. www.example.net/login.php?user=admin;%20DROP%20TABLE%20users;%20--&pwd=f
d. It is not possible. (None of the above)
```

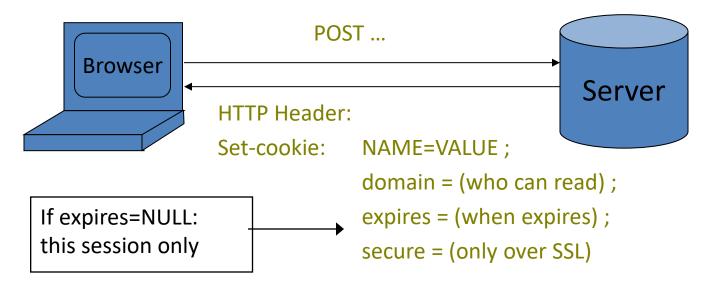
 Under the same premise, which URI can delete users table in database?

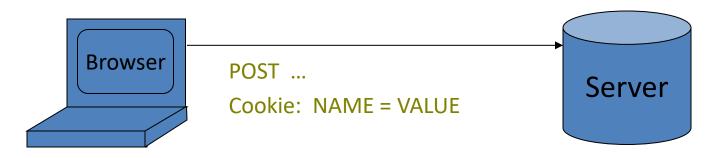
Authentication: Client State

- HTTP is a stateless protocol
 - each request and response pair is independent from others
- Session management
 - to enable user sessions (e.g. cart in an online shop)
 - to make stateless HTTP support session state
- Session ID
 - generated on the server and sent to the client (browser)
 - provided then by the browser in each request to the server
 - stored and transferred as a cookie, hidden form field etc.
- Weaknesses in session management often exploited
 - various session hijacking techniques exist

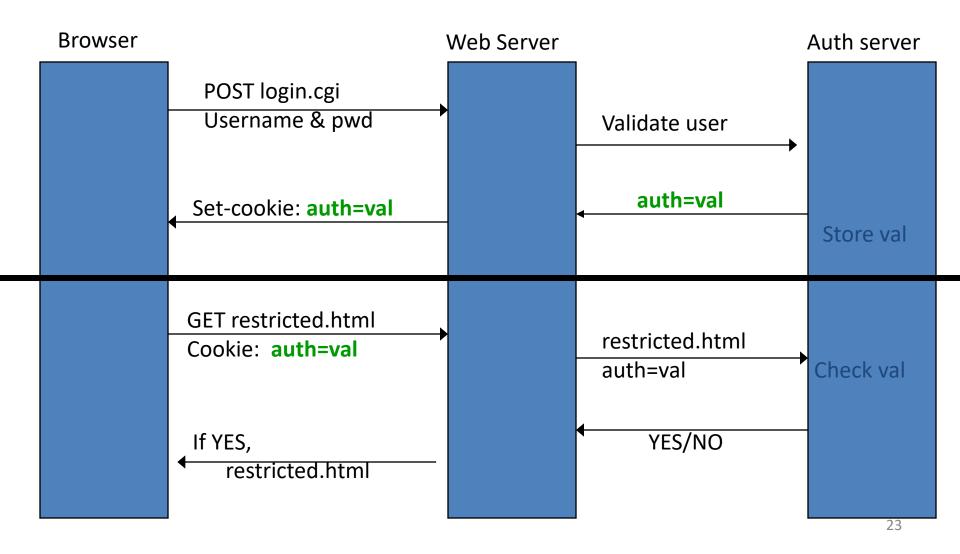
Cookies

Used to store state on user's machine





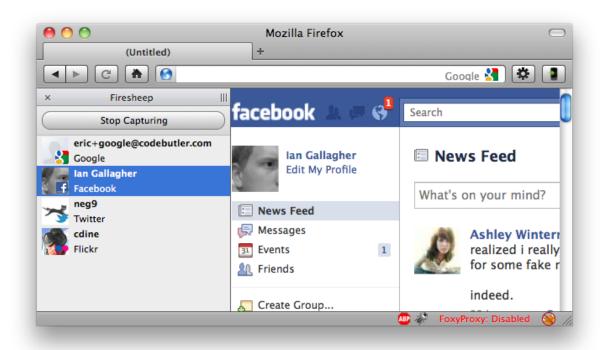
Cookie authentication



HTTP Sessions/Cookies(bad example)

- Upon authentication cookie sent to user to use in subsequent communication with server
- The problem :
 - Passwords are important...so password exchange encrypted.
 - Unfortunately nothing afterwards encrypted!
- The cookie coming back from the server is in the clear
- Anyone with this cookie can access server as user
 (allows for HTTP session hi-jacking sent as plaintext)

Real issue



- This is a reasonably common practice Twitter only makes SSL mandatory for all 3rd party app January 2014, Facebook only makes SSL mandatory July 2013....
- Fixed by end to end encryption of all data (HTTPS, VPN, wireless)

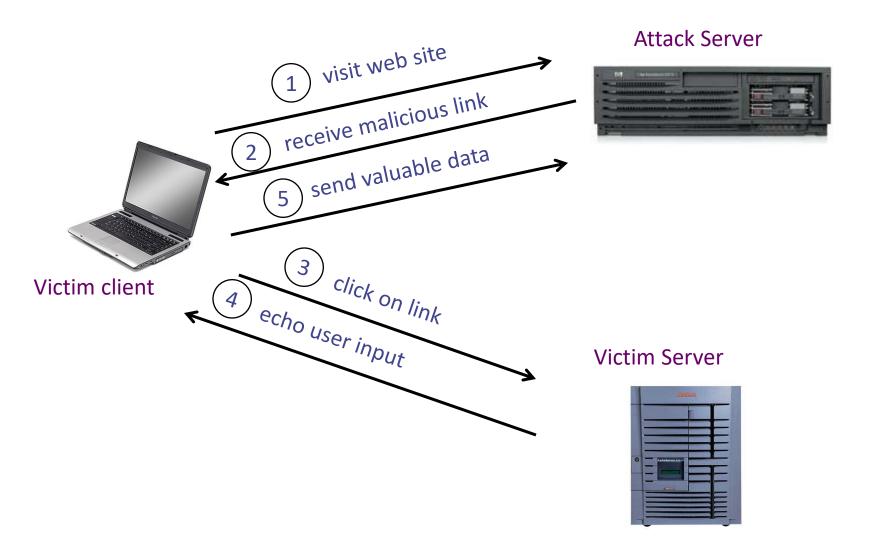
Cross-site scripting (XSS)

- Cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability
 - an application takes user input and sends it to a Web browser without validation or encoding
 - attacker can execute JavaScript code in the victim's browser
 - to hijack user sessions, deface web sites etc.

What is XSS?

- An XSS vulnerability is present when an attacker can inject scripting code into pages generated by a web application
- Methods for injecting malicious code:
 - Reflected XSS ("type 1")
 - the attack script is reflected back to the user as part of a page from the victim site
 - Stored XSS ("type 2")
 - the attacker stores the malicious code in a resource managed by the web application, such as a database

Basic scenario: reflected XSS attack



XSS example: vulnerable site

- search field on victim.com:
 - http://victim.com/search.php ? term = apple

Search.php is supposed to accept a query and show the results

Server-side implementation of search.php:

Bad input

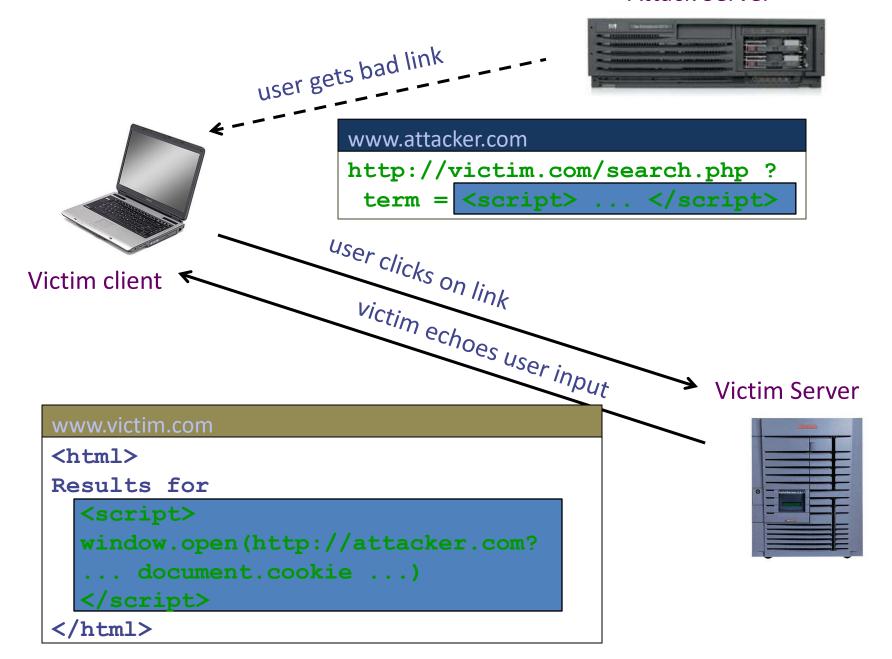
Consider link: (properly URL encoded)

Pre-setup by attacker

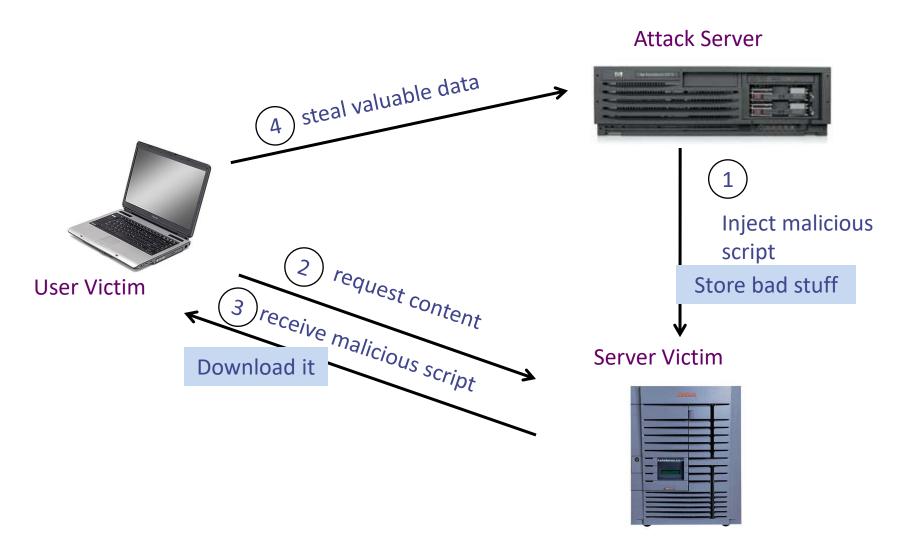
- What if user clicks on this link?
 - 1. Browser goes to victim.com/search.php

 - 3. Browser executes script:
 - Sends badguy.com cookie for victim.com

Attack Server



Stored XSS



Stored XSS using images

Suppose pic.jpg on web server contains HTML!

request for http://site.com/pic.jpg results in:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
...
Content-Type: image/jpeg
<html> fooled ya </html>
```

- IE will render this as HTML (despite Content-Type)
- Consider photo sharing sites that support image uploads
 - What if attacker uploads an "image" that is a script?

The end!



Any questions...