

Lab III - Web Security

Software Security, DV2546

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INTRODUCTION

The lab is based on the project OWASP Broken Web Applications (OWASPBWA) that produces a virtual machine running a variety of applications with known vulnerabilities. A virtual machine is set up by downloading the exportable image from their website and VM Ware/ VirtualBox application is used to access OWASP. This lab is divided into four tasks that briefly describe the tools/techniques used, vulnerabilities and exploits found or discovered and mainly the countermeasures that ensure web security.

TASK I

The aim of this task is to identify a recent vulnerability related with injection or any top three vulnerabilities from OWASP from the given web sources, give a brief discussion of the risks associated with it and analyze its countermeasures. National Vulnerability Database (NVD), a US government based repository is chosen to search for the vulnerability as it contains data that enables the automation of vulnerability management, security measurement, and compliance [1].

CVE-2016-6619 is the vulnerability chosen. This vulnerability was discovered in the user interface preference feature where a user can execute an SQL injection attack against the account of the control user [2]. The severity of this type of vulnerability is considered to be serious and its impact is unauthorized disclosure of information, unauthorized modification and disruption of service [1].

The type of vulnerability is SQL injection, identified as CWE-89 on the CWE list (Common Weakness Enumeration). When there is no sufficient removal or quoting of SQL syntax in user-controllable inputs, the generated SQL query can cause those inputs to be interpreted as SQL instead of ordinary user data. This can be used to alter query logic to bypass security checks, or to insert additional statements that modify the back-end database, possibly including execution of system commands. SQL injection has become a common issue with database-driven web sites. This type of flaw is easily detected and easily exploited [3].

The server must have a control user account created in MySQL and configured in phpMyAdmin; installations without a control user are not vulnerable.

All 4.6.x versions (prior to 4.6.4), 4.4.x versions (prior to 4.4.15.8), and 4.0.x versions (prior to 4.0.10.17) are affected

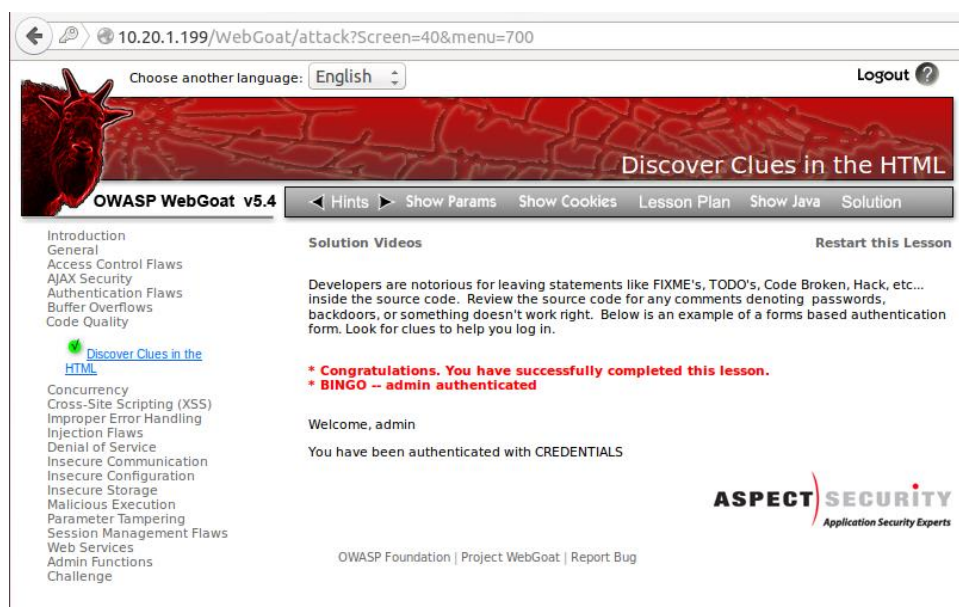
Upgrade to phpMyAdmin 4.6.4, 4.4.15.8, or 4.0.10.17 or newer or apply patch listed below.

TASK 2 : WEB GOAT

1.CODE QUALITY

Discover clues in html

The main objective is that the user must be able to bypass the authentication check. Inside the source code developers are prominent for leaving statements like FIXME's , code broken etc. The source code was reviewed for any comments denoting passwords or backdoors. While examining the html source code, the username admin and password adminpw was found in a comment. Entering the discovered credentials we could login webgoat as shown in figure 1 [4].



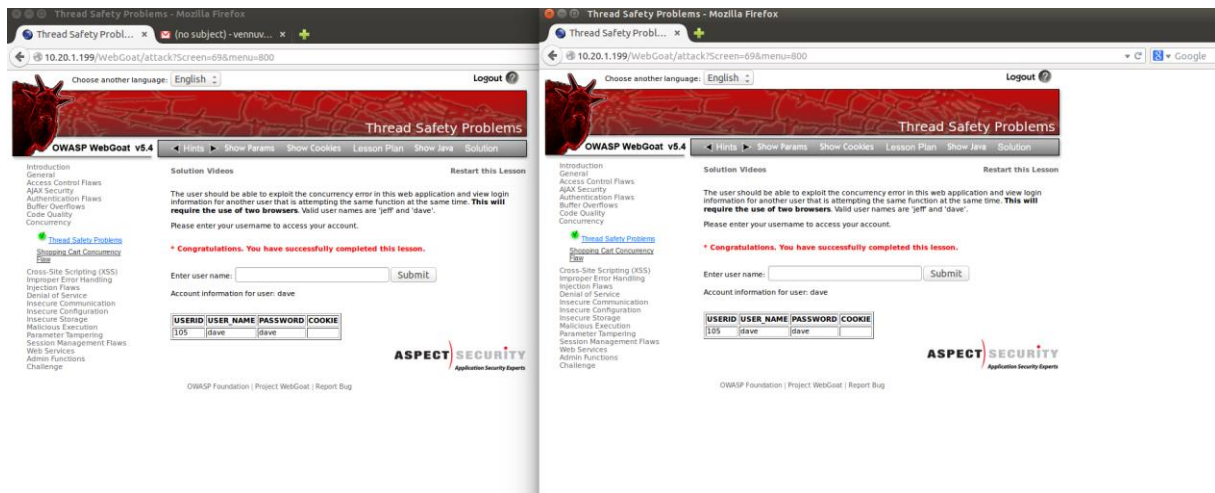
Countermeasures

When developing the source code of html page there must be certain limitations in showing the context and validations must be given to the code. Proper training of the developers prior to coding and use of automated tools for checking the quality of code can be used as countermeasures [5].

2. CONCURRENCY

Thread safety problems

The main goal of the user is to exploit the concurrency error in the web application and view login information for another user that is attempting the same function at the same time. Since web applications handle many http requests and the variables used by the developers are not thread safe, there is a possible way to exploit the concurrency bug by loading same page as another user at same time. The result obtained has same data in both the windows. The root cause could be identified when the java code is examined as it uses static variable [4].



Countermeasures

Use of concurrency controlled mechanisms such as serializability, recoverability etc the test cases can be validated and implementing these avoids race conditions [5].

3. AUTHENTICATION FLAWS

Forgot password

The goal of the user is to retrieve password of another user. Users can retrieve their password when the secret question is answered properly. The main concept is that Web applications fail to implement the mechanism of providing ability to retrieve a forgotten password since the information used to assess the identity of the user is very simple. The password of the admin was retrieved by typing the color green after implementing brute force attack [4].

Choose another language: English Logout ?

Forgot Password

OWASP WebGoat v5.4

Introduction
General
Access Control Flaws
AJAX Security
Authentication Flaws
Password Strength
Forgot Password
Basic Authentication
Multi Level Login 2
Multi Level Login 1
Buffer Overflows
Code Quality
Concurrency
Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
Improper Error Handling
Injection Flaws
Denial of Service
Insecure Communication
Insecure Configuration
Insecure Storage
Malicious Execution
Parameter Tampering
Session Management Flaws
Web Services
Admin Functions
Challenge

Solution Videos Restart this Lesson

Web applications frequently provide their users the ability to retrieve a forgotten password. Unfortunately, many web applications fail to implement the mechanism properly. The information required to verify the identity of the user is often overly simplistic.

General Goal(s):

Users can retrieve their password if they can answer the secret question properly. There is no lock-out mechanism on this 'Forgot Password' page. Your username is 'webgoat' and your favorite color is 'red'. The goal is to retrieve the password of another user.

*** Congratulations. You have successfully completed this lesson.**

Webgoat Password Recovery
For security reasons, please change your password immediately.

Results:
Username: admin
Color: green
Password: 2275\$starBo0m3

ASPECT SECURITY
Application Security Experts

OWASP Foundation | Project WebGoat | Report Bug

Countermeasures

The security question should not be simple to guess and the number of attempts of actions we perform during brute force attack must be validated [5].

TASK 3: MUTILLIDAE

1.SQL INJECTION-SQLi-Extract data-User Info

To exploit information of all users we perform SQL injection in this vulnerability. By referring the source [5] we performed the exploitation. The characters such as single-quote, back-slash, double-hyphen, forward-slash. Injections are done on the basis of true and false values.

' or 1 = 1 -

This text is used for both username and password. We get the users account information by clicking view details as shown in the below figure



Countermeasures [6]

1.Avoiding dynamic SQL queries

2.Whitelisting input validations

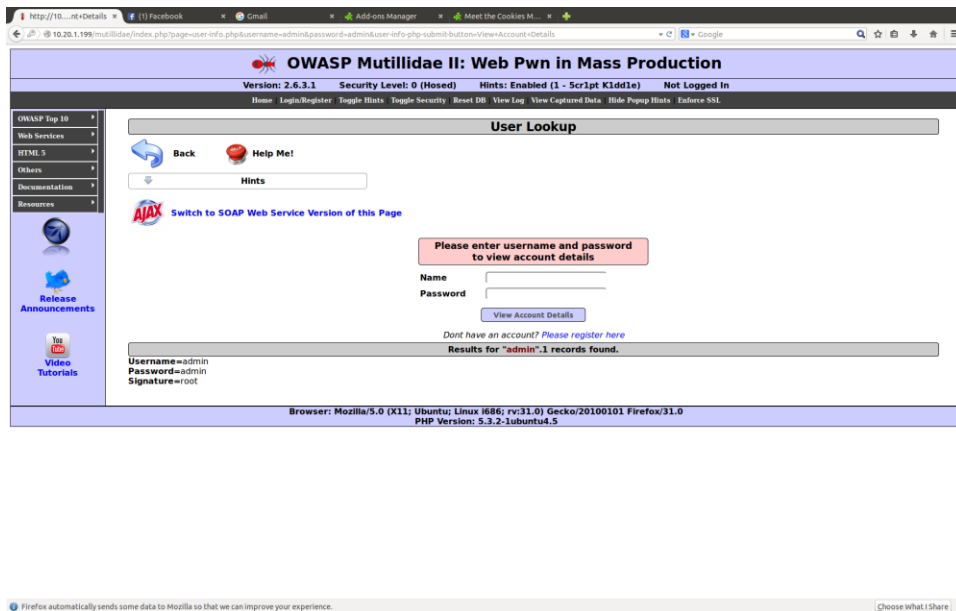
2.SQL INJECTION-SQLi-Bypass Authentication-Login

Using SQL injection we bypass authentication on the login page. This can be done using the name field to authenticate the first user found in the user table [5].

Username: '1'='1'

Password: 'or'1'='1'

We sign in as admin by entering same text in the username and password fields.

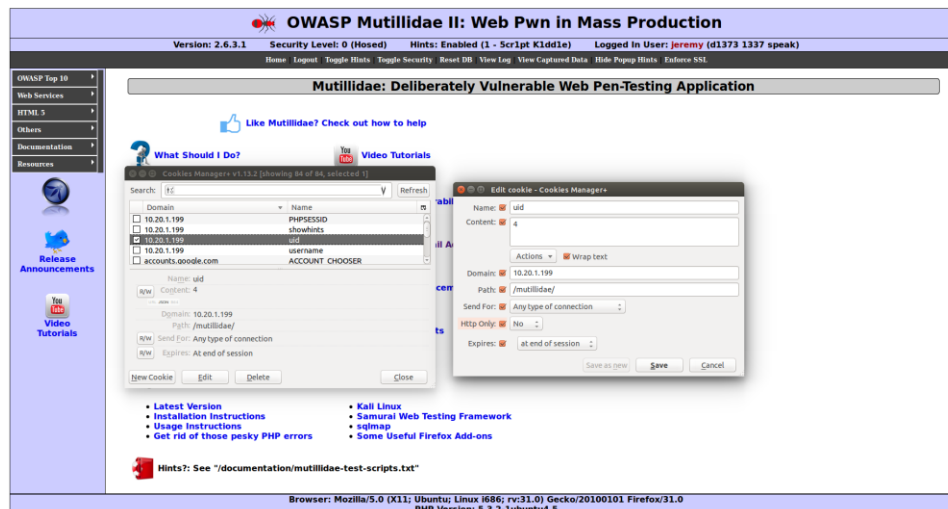


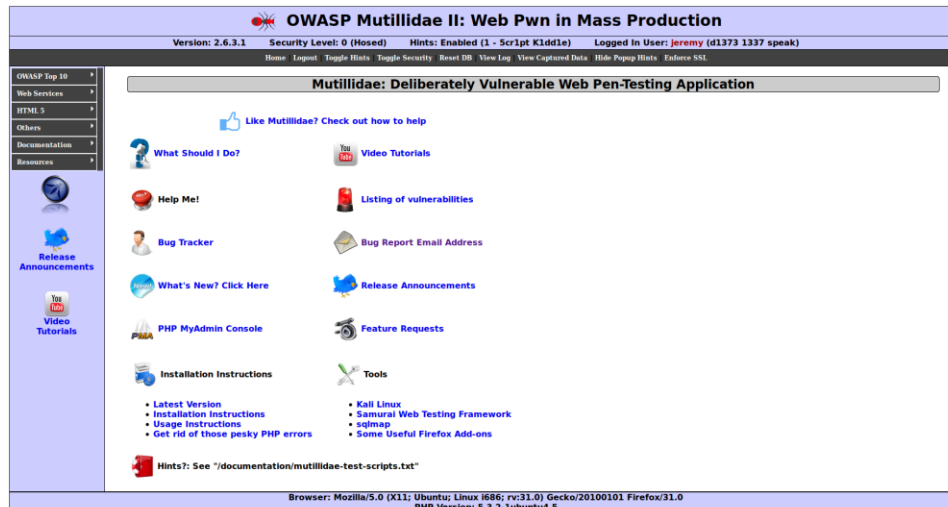
Countermeasures [6]

- 1.safe characters in place of special characters.
- 2.use of specific escape syntax.

3. Broken Authentication and session management-Authentication bypass-Via cookies

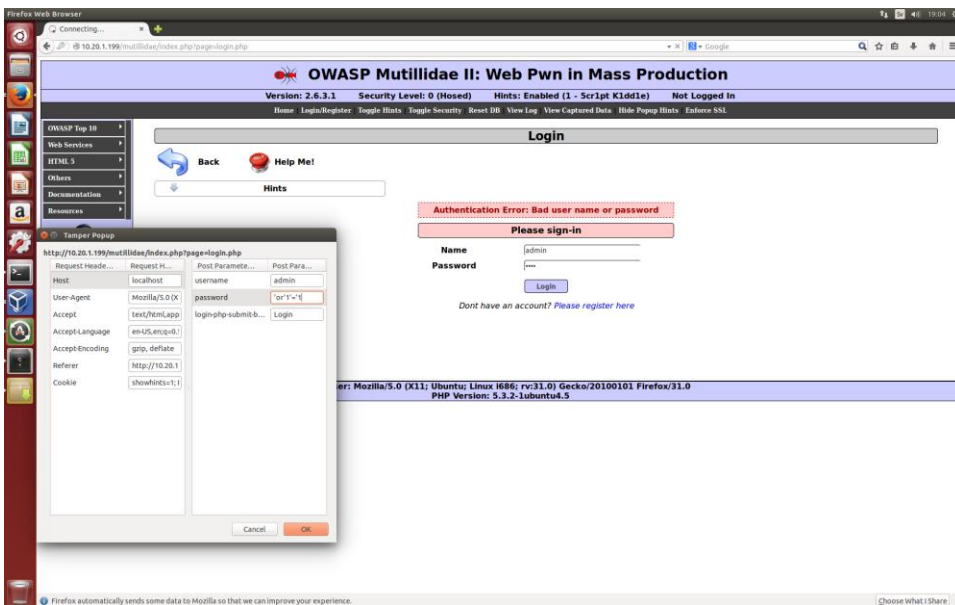
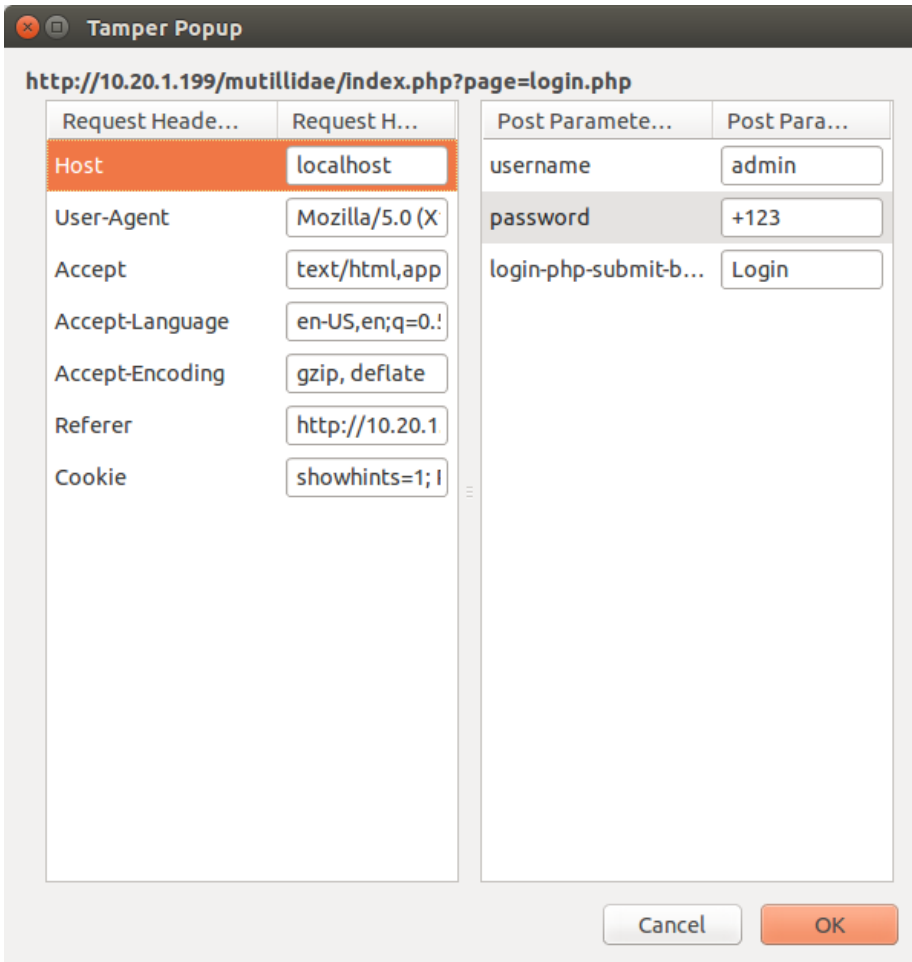
We need to register in the beginning by entering random username and password. After the installations of cookie manager + from extensions for checking the cookies (to be installed if not found in the system). By changing the value of aid value from 24 to 1, we could successfully login [5].

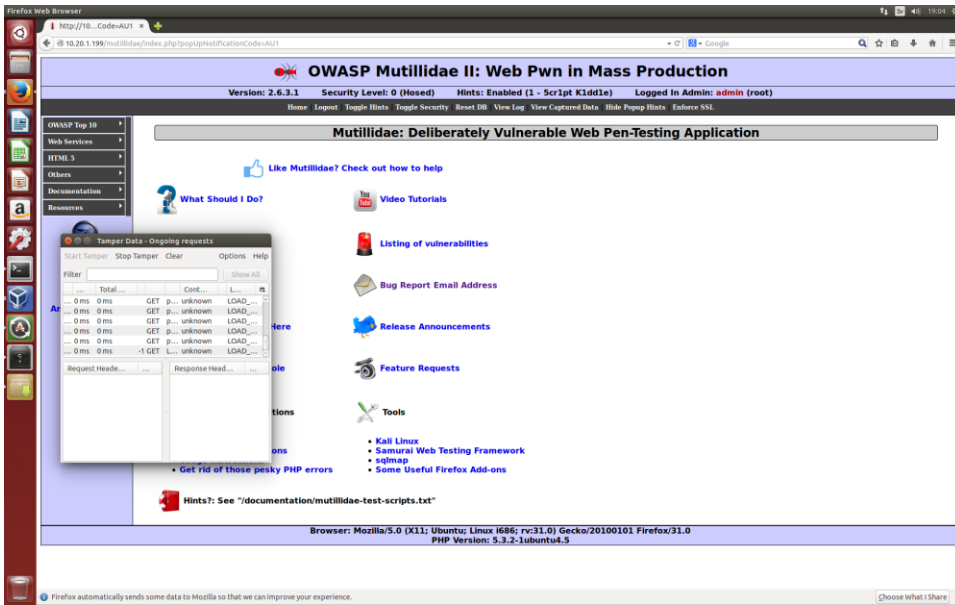




4. Broken Authentication and session management-Login-Via SQL injection

We had done this by downloading an extension tamper data. After entering username as 'admin' and some random number as password, we will start tamper by selecting tamper data in tools menu. Then we will login to the page and change request beside host to localhost and the password to '1'='1. After refreshing the page, we can find that admin is logged in.





Countermeasures for 3 and 4 [7]

1. Avoiding XSS flaws by taking certain actions.
2. On request encryption must be enabled.

5.Cross site scripting (XSS)-Reflected (First order)-DNS Lookup

The website is evaluated to find any vulnerabilities if present.

A random string is put in place of domain and the website has returned the value.This means that the website is now vulnerable to cross site scripting.The input string is executed in

ReflectedXSSExecutionPoint=""1">;Results for asdf</div><pre class=""report-header"

Now input the following script :

```
<Script>alert(10)</script>;
```

This will print 20 as message as shown in the figure and confirms that the website is XSS vulnerable.



6. Other injection-HTML Injection –Set Background color

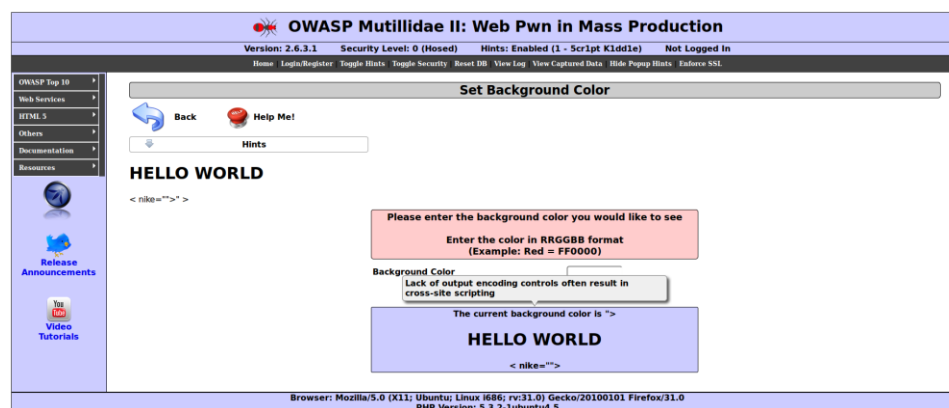
The CSS page is injected with a cross site script. The page sets background colour with the given input color. The color is set with the following style code

Style="background color:#color"

We now end the style with a ">" and start our script and then end the "<" after colour with any tag. Our injection is like this.

"<<H1>Hello world<H1/><span"

This will execute our injection code of Hello world. The result is shown in figure



Countermeasures

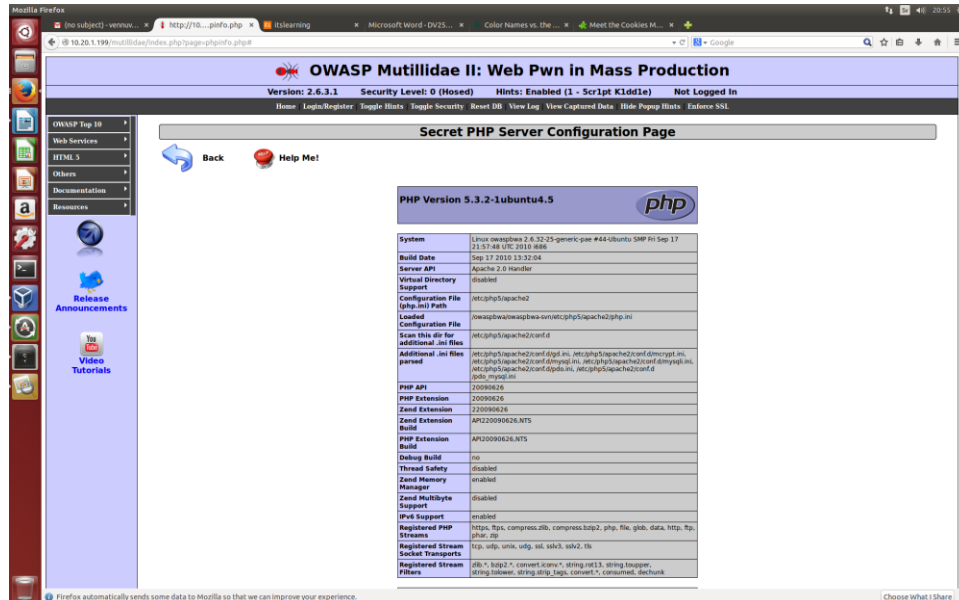
1. User input is set to minimum.
2. CSS hex encoding must be used.

7. Sensitive data exposure-information disclosure-PHP info page

Sensitive information can be exploited by viewing directly PHP info page. Hackers gain the web server information by the phpinfo() which developers use to know the version of php used. Attackers can easily bypass the possible IDS detection.

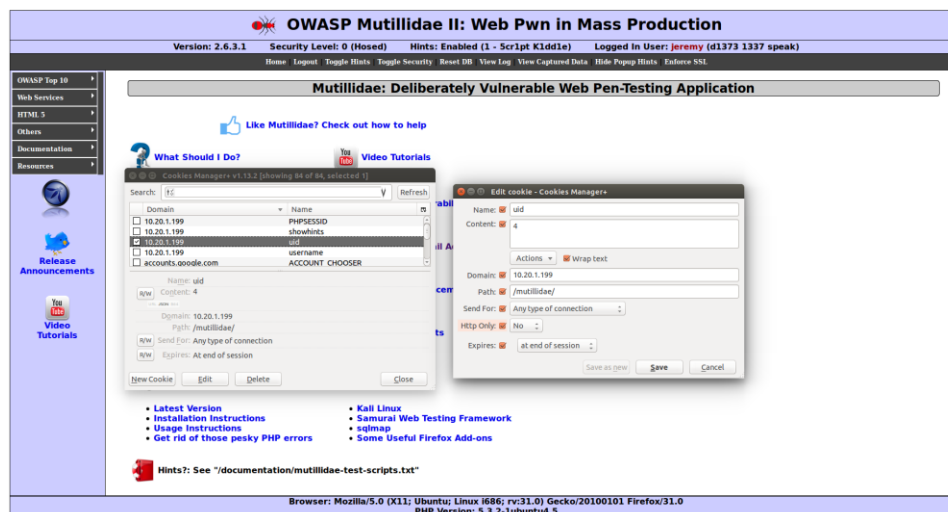
Countermeasures [8]

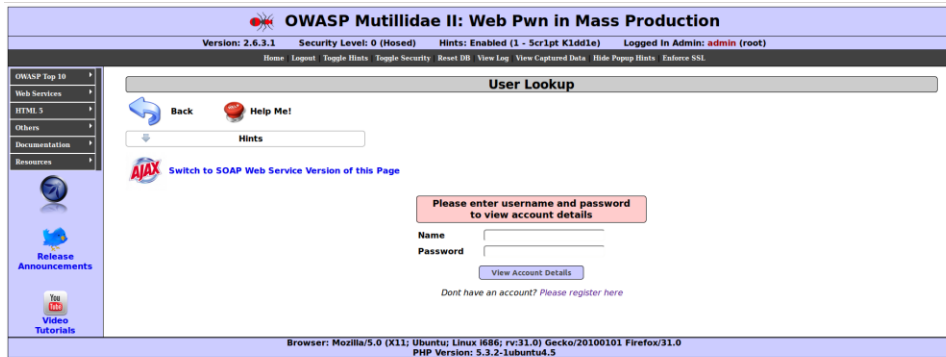
In the server phpinfo() must not be enclosed. Sensitive files are scanned at certain intervals of time to prevent any such threat.



8. Insufficient Transport Layer Protection-Login

We have exploited login with the help of cookie manager in the vulnerability transport layer. We logged into it by using the username and password 'user' where the current cookie was replaced by 1 and the page was refreshed.



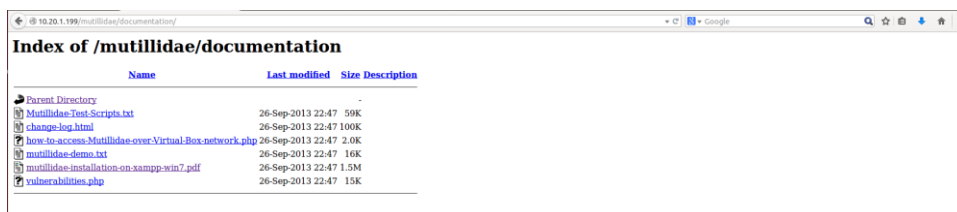


Countermeasures [9]


















- 1.requires SSL for sensitive pafes whereas these pages should be redirected to SSL page for Non-SSL requests
- 2.Configure your SSL provider to only support strong algorithms
- 3.We must ensure that a valid certificate which has not expired is used which matches the domain used

9. Security Misconfiguration-Directory Browsing

Directory browsing shows the contents of directories on the server to the user when the web server is misconfigured. Using search engines to look for pages which include "index of" in the title and reading the robot.txt file and spider the application with a tool such as Burp-site, OWASPZAP, named by search engines. While spidering inspect the folders named in robots.txt.The sensitive information in mutillidae and passwords and documentation can be seen by editing the URL as shown in the below figure [10].



Index of /mutillidae/includes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Last modified</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Description</u>
 Parent Directory		-	
 anti-framing-protection.inc	26-Sep-2013 22:47	704	
 back-button.inc	26-Sep-2013 22:47	2.2K	
 config.inc	26-Sep-2013 22:47	399	
 constants.php	26-Sep-2013 22:47	3.8K	
 create-html-5-web-storage-target.inc	26-Sep-2013 22:47	381	
 footer.php	26-Sep-2013 22:47	2.7K	
 header.php	26-Sep-2013 22:47	35K	
 help-button.inc	26-Sep-2013 22:47	463	
 hints-level-1/	26-Sep-2013 22:47	-	
 hints-level-2/	26-Sep-2013 22:47	-	
 insufficient-transport-layer-protection.inc	26-Sep-2013 22:47	439	
 jquery-init.inc	26-Sep-2013 22:47	497	
 log-visit.php	26-Sep-2013 22:47	713	
 minimum-class-definitions.php	26-Sep-2013 22:47	1.3K	
 pop-up-help-context-generator.php	26-Sep-2013 22:47	1.4K	
 pop-up-status-notification.inc	26-Sep-2013 22:47	2.0K	

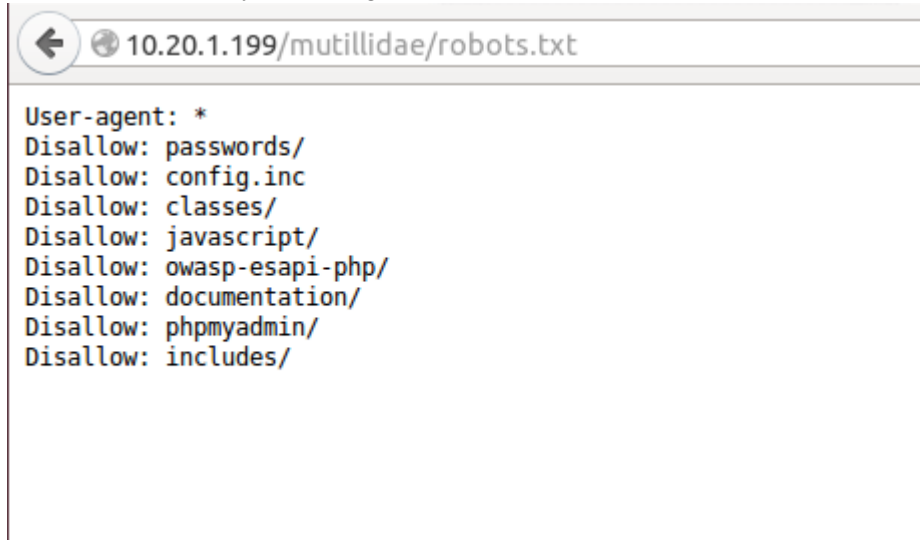
Countermeasures

A strong application architecture implementation and server configuration to prevent any unauthorized access [10].

10. Security Misconfiguration-Information Disclosure-robots.txt

Robot.txt file is used by sites to prevent web crawlers from indexing site content. Robots.txt is a plain text file which can be read by site visitors. In some cases, the robots.txt file will point to sensitive pages or directories. If a sensitive file is placed in robots.txt without proper authorization controls protecting the file, site visitors may discover the contents and browse to the files [<http://10.20.1.199/mutillidae/index.php?page=robots-txt.php>]. To exploit we need to follow the paths in

the robot.txt file by browsing it in mutillidae.Robots.txt is located at localhost/mutillidae/robots.txt.



Countermeasures

These files must not be filled with sensitive information and attackers who hack this can be discovered by google honeypot [].

REFLEXION REPORT

S NO:	TIME	KNOWLEDGE
Task1	2 hours	SQL vulnerability in cms software and overcoming vulnerabilities
Task2	5 hours	Concurrency, denial of service ,forgot password attack
Task3	15 hours	Complex task where top 10 OWASP vulnerabilities were learned .

REFERENCES

- [1] <https://web.nvd.nist.gov/view/vuln/detail?vulnId=CVE-2016-6619>
- [2] <https://www.phpmyadmin.net/security/PMASA-2016-42/>
- [3] <http://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/89.html>
- [4] <http://10.20.1.199/WebGoat/source?solution=true>
- [5] https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Main_Page
- [6] https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Top_10_2010-A1-Injection
- [7] https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Top_10_2010-A3

- [8] <http://yehg.net/lab/pr0js/papers/Disclosure%20Vulnerability%20PHPINFO.pdf>
- [9] https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Top_10_2010-A9-Insufficient_Transport_Layer_Protection
- [10] https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Top_10_2010-A6-Security_Misconfiguration