FINAL LEARNING PATH

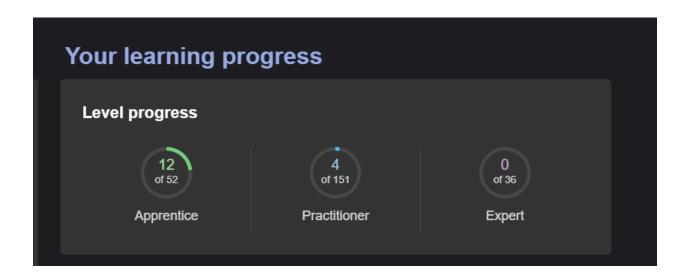


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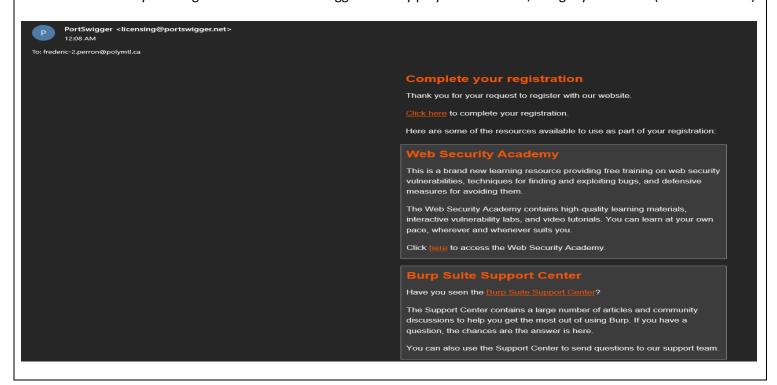
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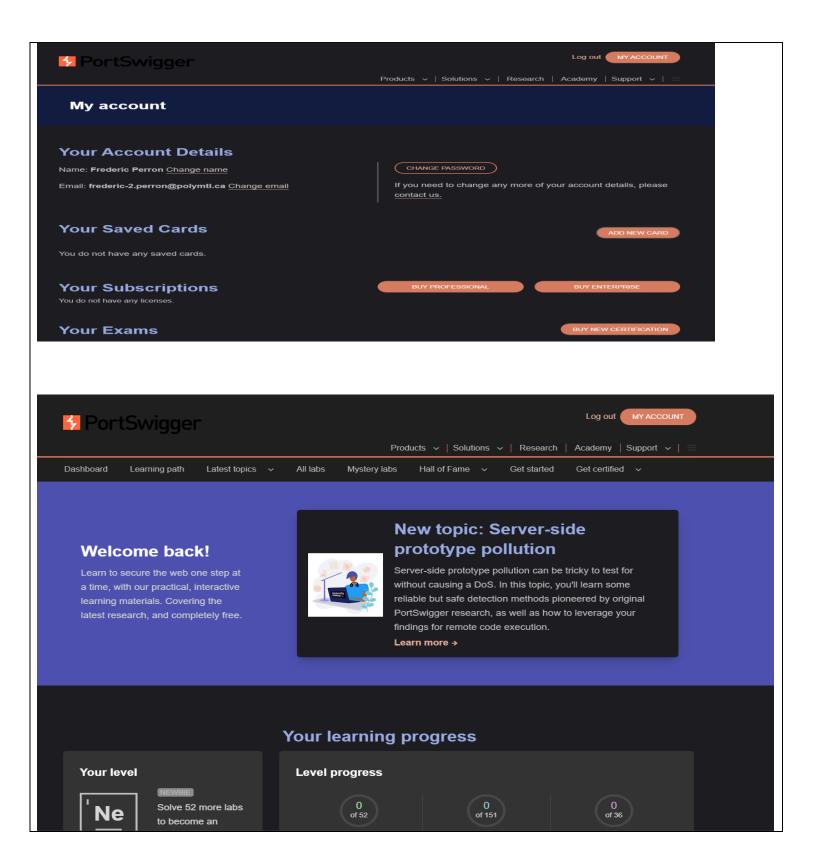
Introduction

There will be a few pictures of the progress throughout the documentation of my labs below

The beginning of each lab will be font bolded for a better quality of browsing.

I have first started by creating an account on Portswigger with my poly email address, using my real name (Frederic Perron).





Path 1 SQL Injection

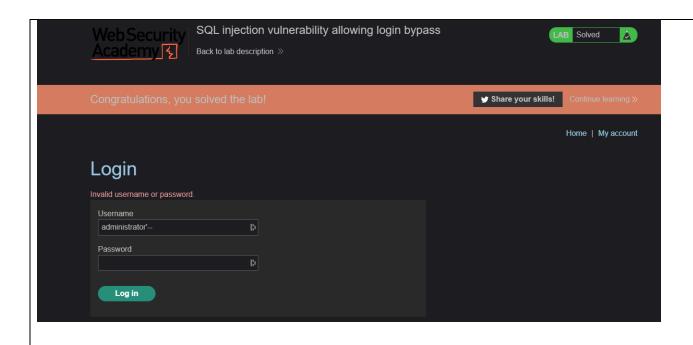
We start by first stating and acknowledging what a SQL injection is. A SQL injection is a type of cyber attack where an attacker injects malicious SQL statements into a web application's input field, with the intention of manipulating the backend database. This allows them to steal sensitive information, modify or delete data, or even take control of the entire database. Attackers can exploit vulnerabilities in poorly designed web applications that do not properly validate user input or use parameterized queries to protect against SQL injection. It is a serious threat to the security of web applications that rely on SQL databases and requires constant vigilance and best practices to prevent.

The first exercise consisted of simply injecting true values to the parameters to access sensitives informations. The string "+1OR+1=1--" is a common SQL injection attack string that can be used to modify the behavior of a SQL query. When this string is appended to a database parameter, the resulting SQL query will evaluate the expression "1 OR 1=1", which is always true. This can result in unexpected behavior in the application, such as bypassing authentication mechanisms, retrieving sensitive information, or modifying the contents of the database. We can see below the way we used to solve the first lab:

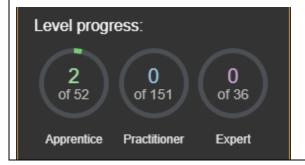
● 0abb00a303b7ea1f88fd388e0061008b.web-security-academy.net/filter?category=%27+OR+1=1--



Here in the second lab, we change the login parameter with administrator'-- so we can bypass authentication and interact with the database:



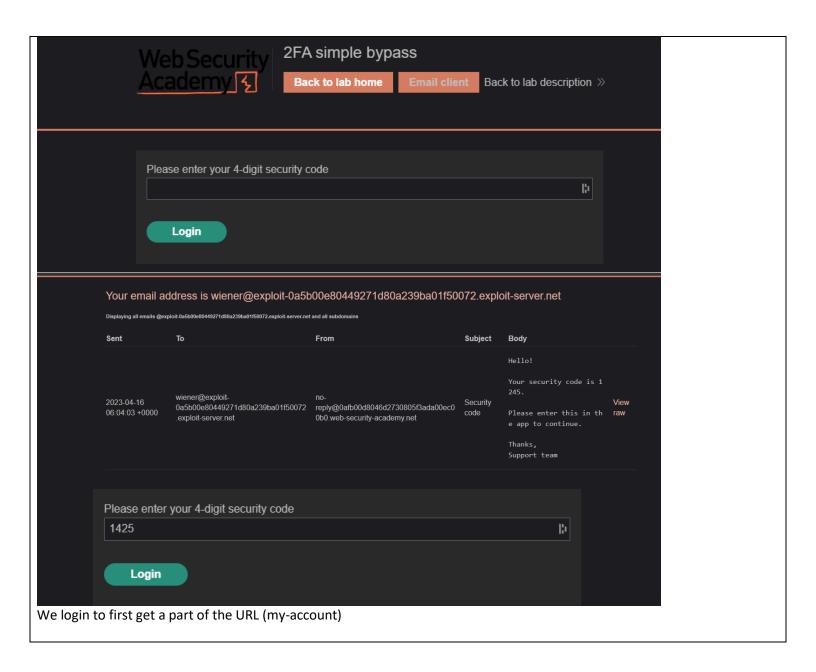
Results after the 2 labs:

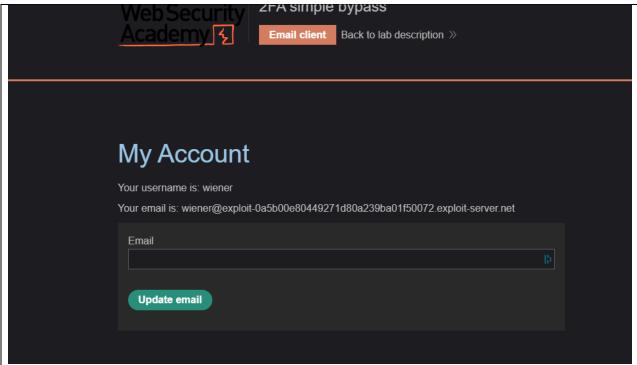


Path 2 Authentication

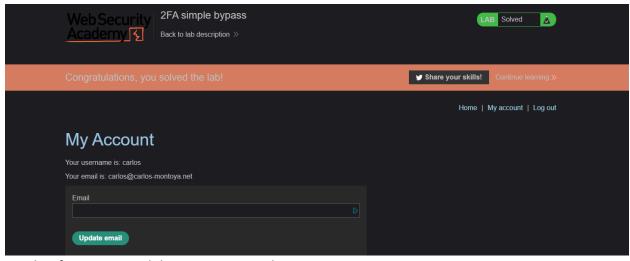
What is authentication? Authentication is a crucial step in confirming the identity of a user or client. Essentially, it ensures that the individual claiming to be the user is indeed the correct person. As websites are designed to be accessible to anyone with an internet connection, it's important to have strong authentication methods in place to ensure effective web security. Without proper authentication mechanisms, websites can be easily compromised, and sensitive data may be at risk.

First lab of authentication is the 2FA simple bypass





After we logged in, in the URL we have the my-account in the URL which will act as our token to simply bypass when we try to connect to another user and changing the login id to that my-account string



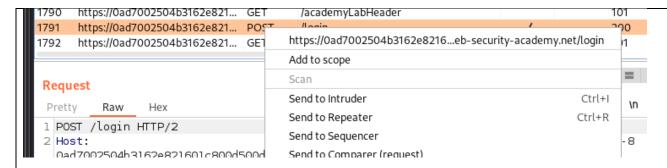
Results after we entered the my-account in the URL

Here is the URL after we modified the entry of the login user to my-account of the earlier URL when we were logged in

● 0afb00d8046d2730805f3ada00ec00b0.web-security-academy.net/my-account

Second lab for the Authentication was Username enumeration via different responses

We first start by finding the post request with the /login directory and send it to Intruder.



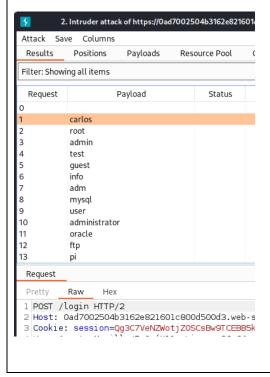
Then we remove the \$ and add it to the username only.

```
Target: https://oad7002504b3162e821601c800d500d3.web-security-academy

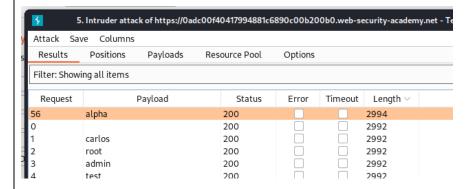
POST /login HTTP/2
Host: Oad7002504b3162e821601c800d500d3.web-security-academy.r
Cookie: session=Qg3C7VeNZWotjZOSCsBw9TCEBB5kx5Ct
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:102.0) Gecko/2
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.5
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 29
Origin: https://oad7002504b3162e821601c800d500d3.web-security
Referer: https://oad7002504b3162e821601c800d500d3.web-securit
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Sec-Fetch-Dest: document
Sec-Fetch-Mode: navigate
Sec-Fetch-Site: same-origin
Sec-Fetch-User: ?1
Te: trailers

username=Shellos&password=hello
```

Now we simply add the username list that we have provided with the lab into the payload section to create a brute force attack for the username. Then we simply repeat the process for the passwords.

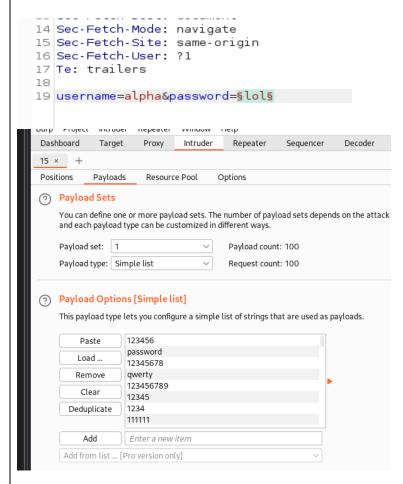


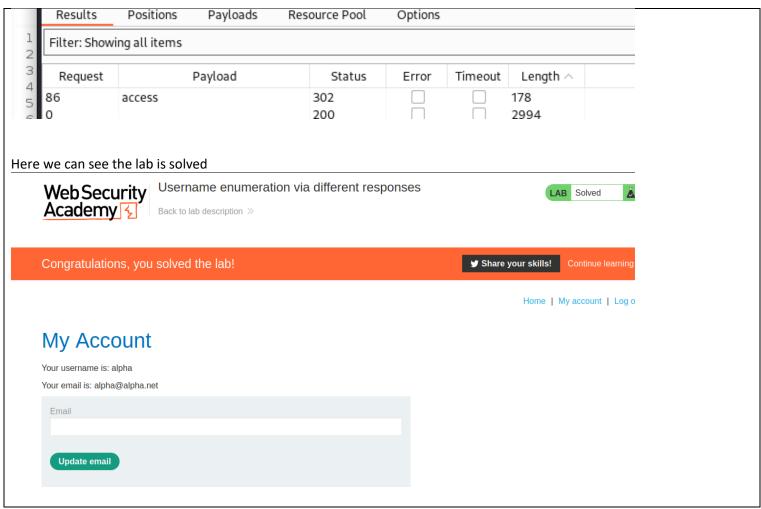
Here are the results we get after the payload attack



Here we can see alpha is the username, since the length of the requests is slightly bigger than every other one username.

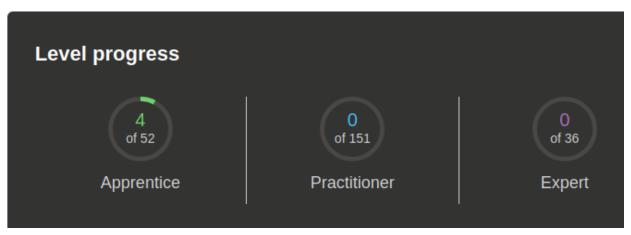
We have the results when we add the found username from previous picture and then executing the brute force payload on the password with the list we had provided :





Progression so far:

Your learning progress



I have then opted for this lab still in the Authentication path.

Lab: Username enumeration via subtly different responses

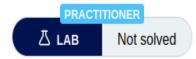












This lab is subtly vulnerable to username enumeration and password brute-force attacks. It has an account with a predictable username and password, which can be found in the following wordlists:

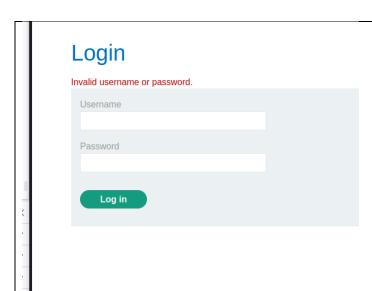
- Candidate usernames
- Candidate passwords

To solve the lab, enumerate a valid username, brute-force this user's password, then access their account page.

Access the lab

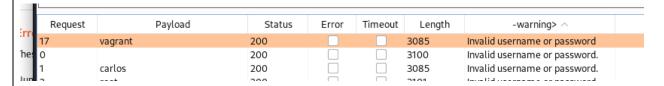
So the goal of this one was pretty much the same but we instead use the missing punctuation, hence the name of the lab subtly different responses, to find the right username via a brute force payload

We first start by entering the wrong credentials:



We then once again look for the same POST request of the /login URL and send it again to Burp Intruder

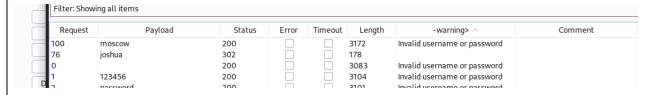
Then, we do pretty much the same thing with the provided list of username and passwords, but we select the invalid and incorrect password with the period (.) in the grep section and we run the Payload. This will tell us if it's the good username if we have a notification without the period.



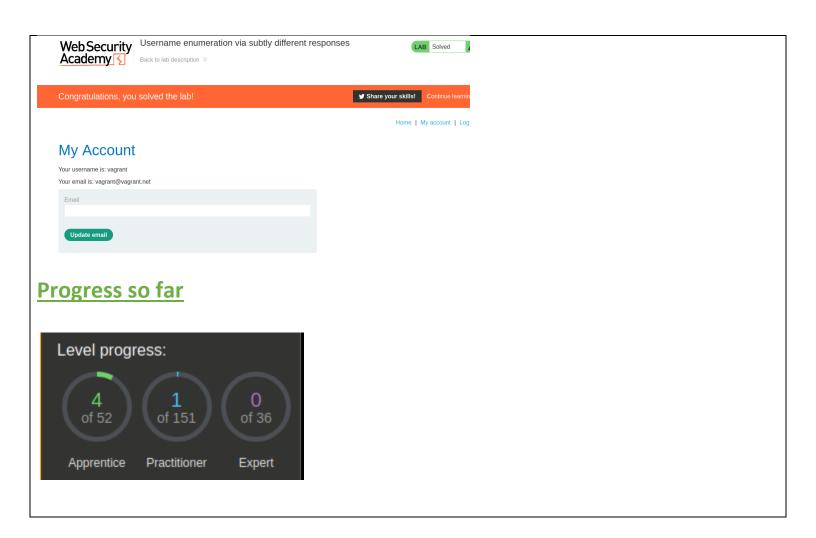
We can see that the username is vagrant.

Then we just run another payload attack for the provided list of passwords with the username we found.

Results of the attack:



So the password is Joshua, finalising the credentials as vagrant/Joshua

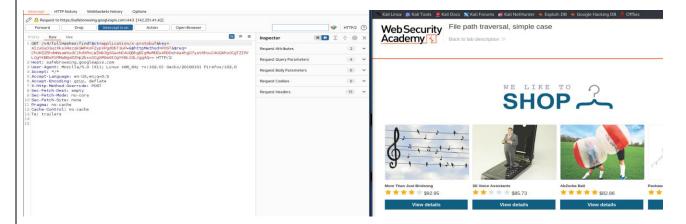


Path 3 Directory Traversal

Directory traversal, also referred to as file path traversal, is a type of web security flaw that enables an intruder to access and read various files on the server hosting an application. This can include the application's code and data, authentication details for backend systems, and confidential system files. In certain instances, the intruder may gain the ability to write to arbitrary files on the server, which could result in the modification of application data or functionality. In the worst-case scenario, this could lead to the intruder obtaining complete control over the server.

For the first lab, we have chosen the Apprentice one, the file path traversal, simple case.

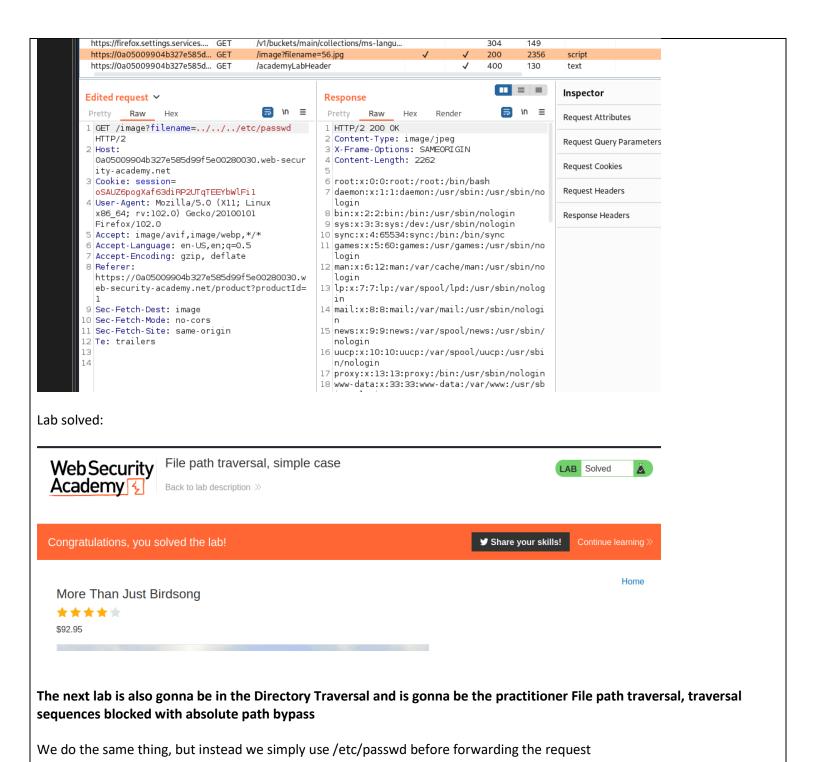
We start by first activating the intercepter and selecting a product on the home page of the lab with the products shown

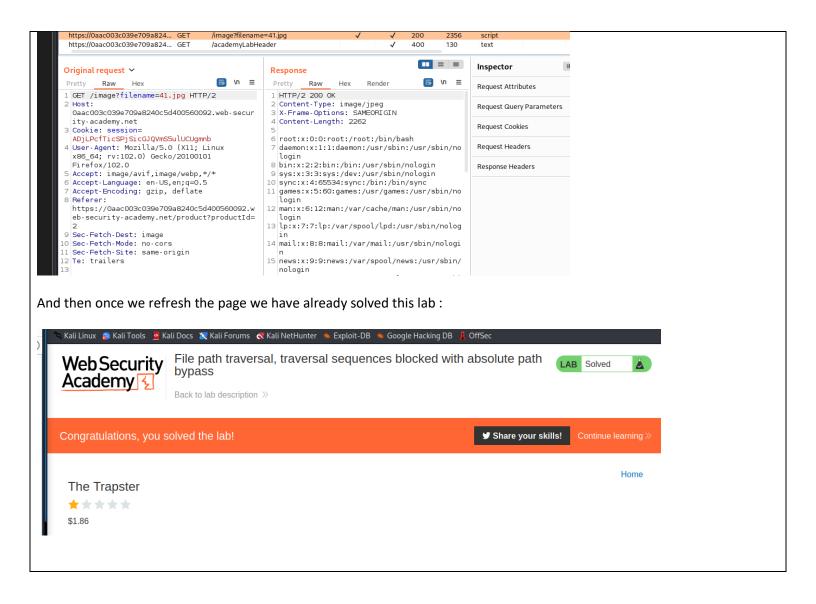


We then modify the value of the image with the typical traversal route

```
⊢orward
                    ∪rop
                             intercept is on
                                                 Action
                                                           ☐ Open Browser
                                                                                   ≡
 Pretty
         Raw
                Hex
1 GET /image?filename=../../etc/passwd HTTP/2
2 Host: 0a05009904b327e585d99f5e00280030.web-security-academy.net
3 Cookie: session=oSAUZ6pogXaf63diRP2UTgTEEYbWlFil
4 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:102.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/102.
5 Accept: image/avif,image/webp,*/*
6 Accept-Language: en-US, en; q=0.5
7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
8 Referer:
  https://0a05009904b327e585d99f5e00280030.web-security-academy.net/product?product
9 Sec-Fetch-Dest: image
10 Sec-Fetch-Mode: no-cors
11 Sec-Fetch-Site: same-origin
12 Te: trailers
13
```

We have then access to the directory after we get the response to our previous request and we can traverse as we like:



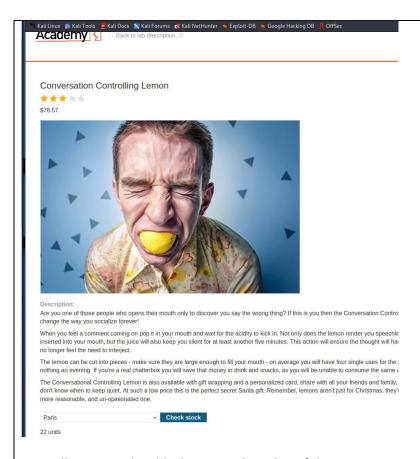


Path 4 OS Command Injection

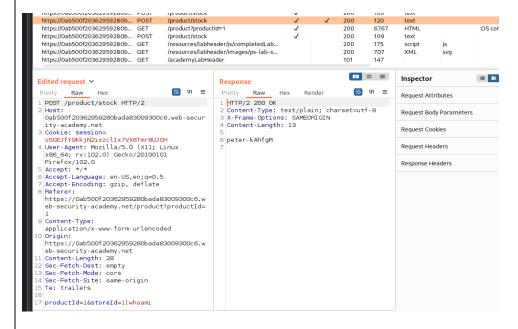
First, what is OS command injection? Operating system command exploitation, sometimes referred to as shell infiltration, represents a web security flaw that enables a malicious actor to run any operating system commands on the server hosting an application. This usually results in a complete breach of the application and its information. In many cases, the attacker can take advantage of this type of exploitation to infiltrate other components of the hosting framework, using established trust connections to expand the attack to additional systems within the entity.

First lab of this path was the OS command injection, simple case

We first start by accessing the lab and choosing an article. We go down and choose the Paris section which gave us 22 units



Secondly, we simply add whoami to the value of the storeID to get some credentials



Once we refresh the page, the lab is solved.

OS command injection, simple case

Back to lab description >>



The road so far:



The next lab is gonna be still in the same Path, and is named Blind OS command injection with time delays

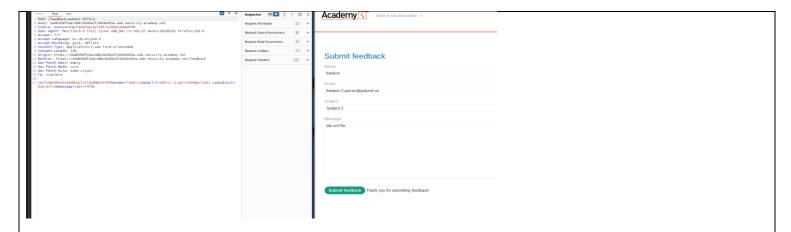
We first start by submitting a feedback and finding the request in our Burp Suite

We add the 2 bars in the name value section of the request and we get a Thank you for submitting feedback with our value added

Submit feedback Thank you for submitting feedback!

So that means this parameter is not vulnerable

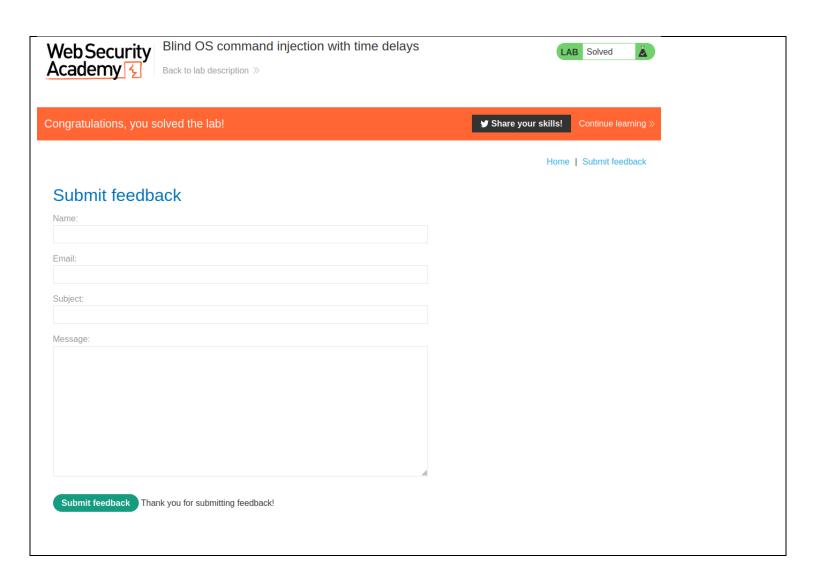
We make the same form as previous



Then we put the 2 pipes in the email section now instead of the name, and we get a different message; error instead of submitted successfully. With this information, we make can conclude which one to inject our command, which is the email section. So, we add the 2 pipes followed by the command *ping+-c+10+127.0.0.1*|

||ping+-c+10+127.0.0.1||&subject=Subject+3&message=

Finally, we can turn off intercepter and we can wait 10 seconds as our command ordered. And the lab will solve automatically.

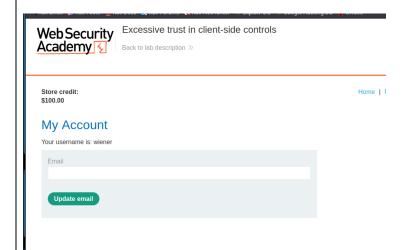


Path 5 Business Logic Vulnerabilities

First off, what are business logic vulnerabilities? Vulnerabilities in business logic refer to weaknesses in an application's design and execution that permit a threat actor to provoke unintended actions. Such weaknesses potentially empower the attacker to exploit lawful functions for malicious purposes. These shortcomings typically stem from the inability to foresee atypical application conditions and, as a result, the inability to manage them securely.

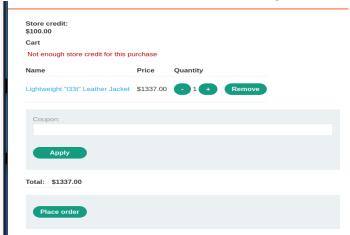
First lab we will do for this path is the Excessive trust in client-side controls.

We start by logging in to our account and accessing our balance store credit (we can see the balance of 100\$):

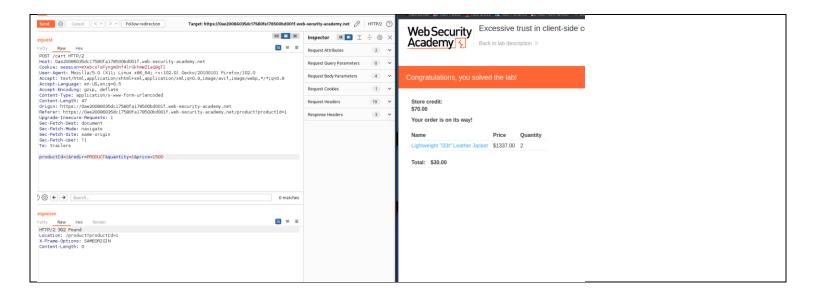


Then, we send a request to add a product to cart while intercepting. We will then send it to Burp Repeader

We can also see below that we don't have enough funds when trying to order that 1337\$ jacket



We will use that request and modify the value of the price for 15\$. And we will then have "enough funds" to order that modified price's jacket. And we can see we have ordered 2 jackets for 15\$, for a total of 30\$, leaving us with 70\$ of store credit balance:



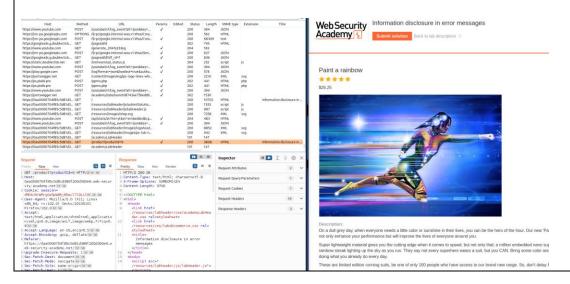
Path 6 Information Disclosure

First off before starting the lab, we have to understand what exactly Information Disclosure is. Inadvertent divulgence of data, often referred to as the unintended exposure of information or information disclosure, occurs when a website inadvertently discloses classified material to its users. In varying circumstances, a website may potentially unveil a plethora of information to prospective attackers, encompassing:

- Particulars related to other users, such as identification credentials or fiscal data
- Confidential trade or organizational information
- Intricate specifications concerning the website and its underlying framework

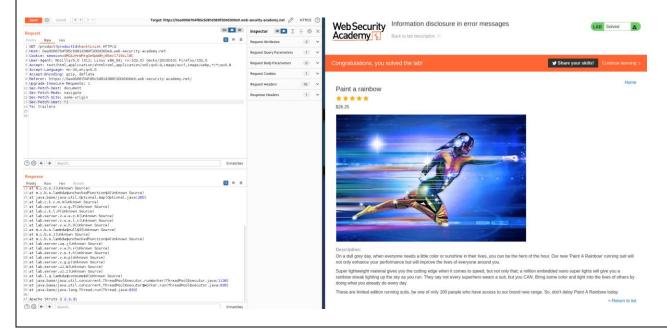
For the lab of this path, I have chosen the Apprentice Lab named Information Disclosure in Error Messages

The goal here is to obtain the version number of the framework. We make sure the proxy is on, all the usual. In the browser, click on a product in the shop and look for the URL with productid=9 in our HTTP History on Burp:



We then send it to Burp Repeater

And we change the productid to a non-numeric value, like hacktivist. And we will scroll down in the response to see the version of Apache Struts used (it was 2.2.3.31 here)

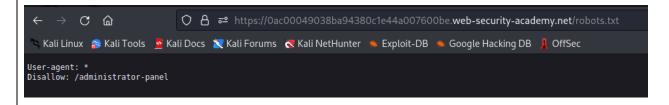


Path 7 Access Control

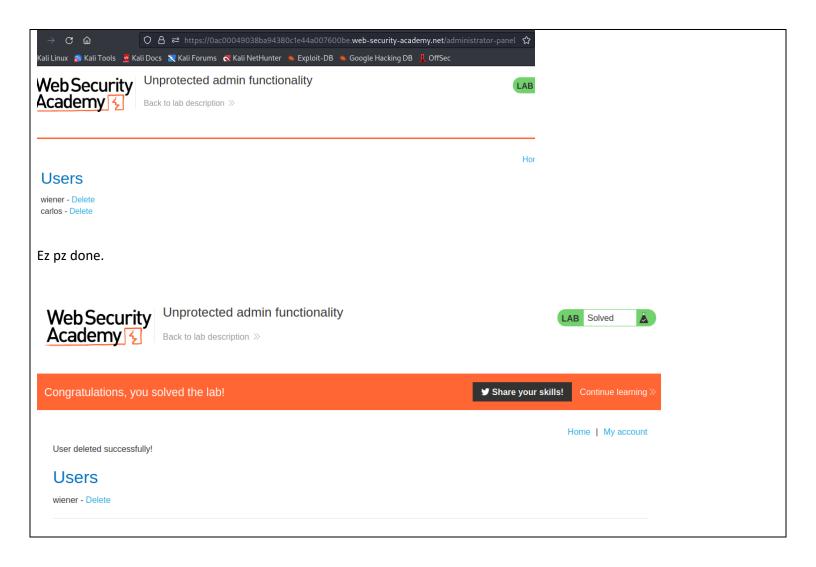
What is access control vulnerabilities? Access control vulnerabilities refer to weaknesses in a system's authorization mechanisms that could allow unauthorized access or privilege escalation. These flaws may enable attackers to bypass restrictions, manipulate resources, and compromise sensitive data, ultimately threatening the security and integrity of the system.

For the lab of this path, I have opted for the lab named Unprotected Admin Functionality

We start by simply adding /robots.txt in the URL



Which gives us access to the database and to modify it. We simply replace then the /robots.txt that we just added with /administrator-panel and we will be able to delete the poor Carlos once again

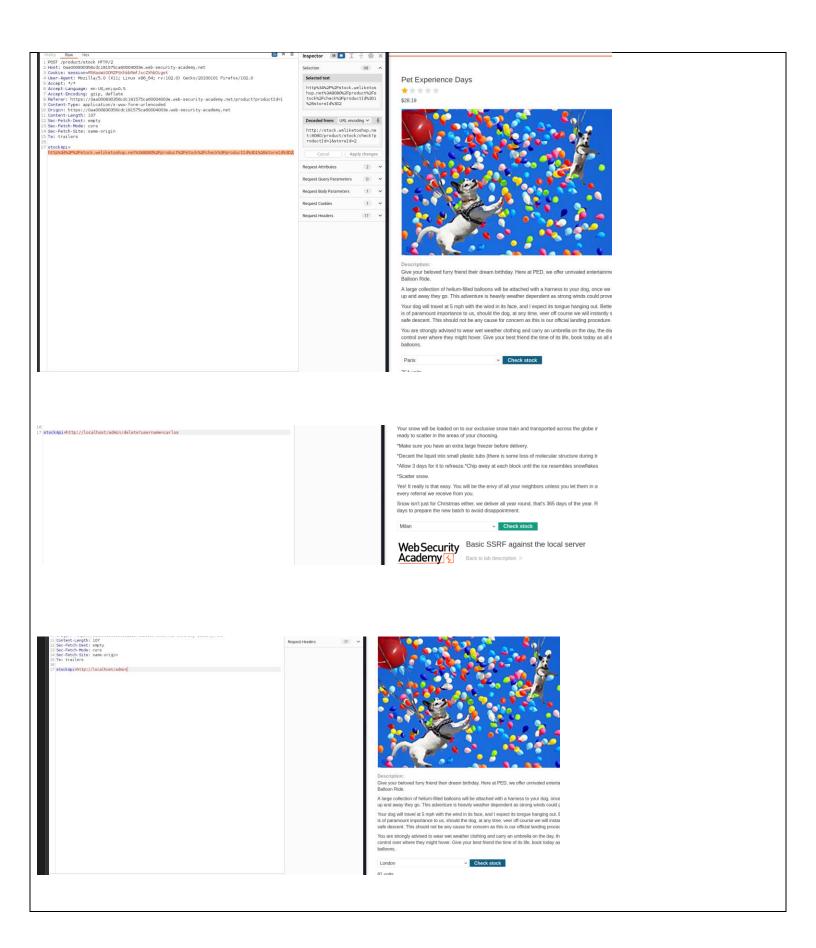


Path 8 Server-side request forgery

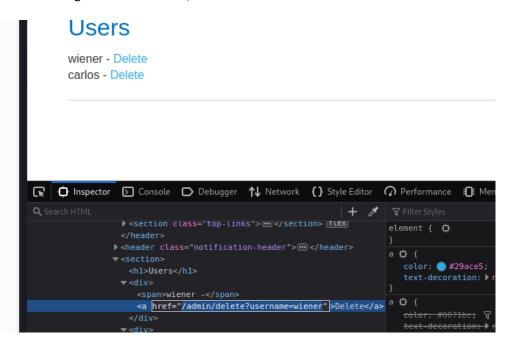
What is it? Server-side request forgery, or SSRF, refers to a web security flaw that enables an attacker to manipulate the server-side application into making requests to unintended destinations. During a common SSRF assault, the attacker can compel the server to establish connections with internal services exclusive to the organization's infrastructure. Alternatively, they might be able to coerce the server into connecting with random external systems, possibly exposing confidential information like authentication credentials.

The name of the lab for this path is Basic SSRF against the local server

We first start by intercepting and capturing the data string (stock API) when we change Country location.



Now, when we scroll down our Lab page after forwarding the requests, we have access to the Deletion of users, but we don't have admin privileges. We will then in the inspector tool of mozilla or any popular browser by pressing F12, change in between the tags <a and >Delete to



Then, finally, we just use the F12 for the basic browse analyser. Take the code string with delete?username=carlos and put that in the new stock API that we will have on the next forwarding page with Milan as country choice this time.



And then we just forward the request and we will have the lab solved.



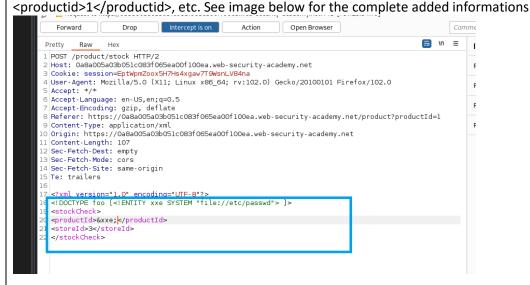
Level progress: 10 0 of 52 0 0 of 36 Apprentice Practitioner Expert

Path 9 XXE Injection

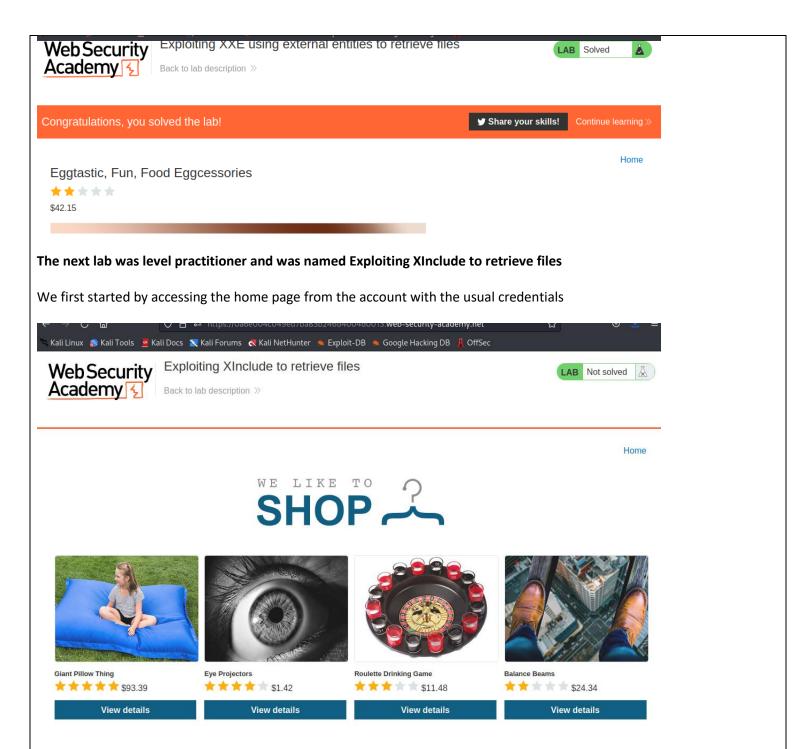
What is a XXE injection? XML External Entity exploitation, commonly referred to as XXE, represents a cybersecurity risk that permits an intruder to manipulate an application's handling of XML data. This vulnerability frequently enables the attacker to access files on the application server's file system and engage with any internal or external systems that the application has access to. Under certain circumstances, an intruder may escalate the XXE exploit to compromise the foundational server or other supporting infrastructure by utilizing the XXE vulnerability as a conduit for executing server-side request forgery (SSRF) assaults.

In this new path, the first lab I made is named Exploiting XXE using external entities to retrieve files

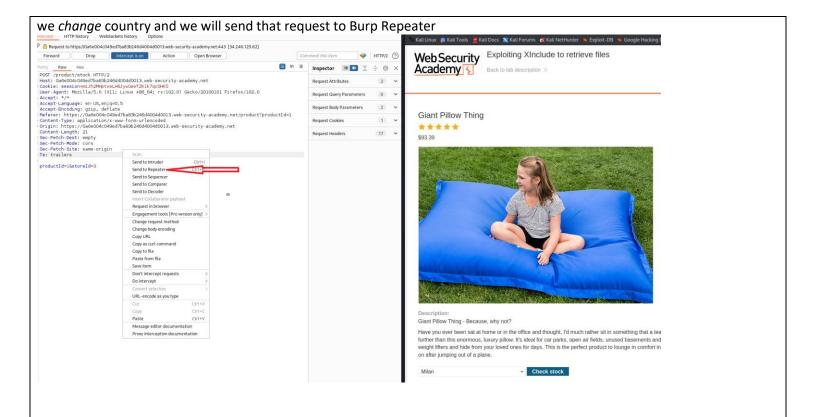
This lab was particularly simple. All we had to do was intercept a request when changing location for the stock check. And we simply add !Doctype and some other strings to the HTML section below showing <StockCheck>,



Then when we refresh/forward the request, the lab will be solved. That easy



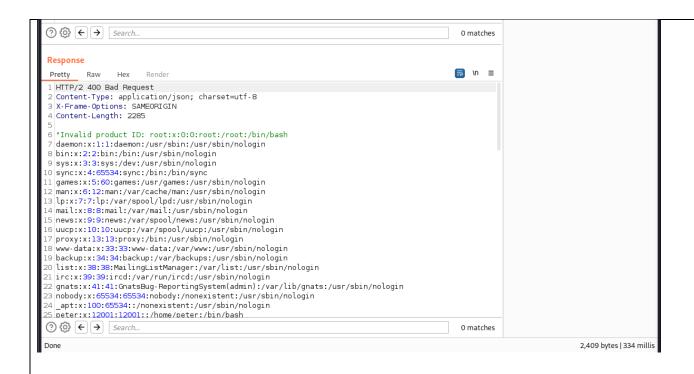
Then, we needed to activate the intercepter and choose a product presented in the available list. Forward the request and select a country to check his available stock for this one item we have clicked on. We send the intercepted request for when



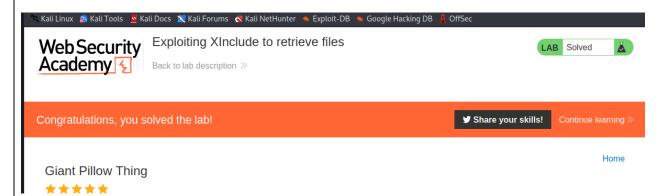
The process to do the task of this lab was to simply change the productId and storeId values in the request to a command. See image below for that command we put in the values of productID

```
⇒ \n
 Pretty
         Raw
1 POST /product/stock HTTP/2
2 Host: 0a6e004c049ed7ba83b246d4004d0013.web-security-academy.net
3 Cookie: session=miJh2MHptveLH6JywGeefZK1k7qc0HK5
4 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:102.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/102.0
5 Accept: */*
6 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
8 Referer: https://oa6e004c049ed7ba83b246d4004d0013.web-security-academy.net/product?productId=1
9 Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
10 Origin: https://0a6e004c049ed7ba83b246d4004d0013.web-security-academy.net
11 Content-Length: 21
12 Sec-Fetch-Dest: empty
13 Sec-Fetch-Mode: cors
14 Sec-Fetch-Site: same-origin
15 Te: trailers
17 productId=<foo xmlns:xi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XInclude"><xi:include parse="text"
  href="file:///etc/passwd"/></foo>
18 &storeId=
```

When we send the request, we get a response with crucial information about the directories and data. See image below



After we simply refresh the page on our Burp browser, the lab is solved automatically



With this practitioner lab done, we are at 11 apprentic and 4 practicioner done, for a total of 19p. Only one point remaining, which will be the lab presented in the final learning path.

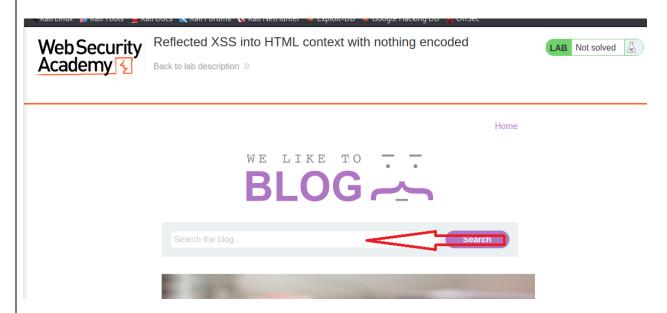


Path 10 XSS (Cross-site scripting)

For the 10th and final path, I have chosen Cross-site scripting (XSS). What is it though? Cross-site scripting (XSS) is a web security vulnerability that allows attackers to inject malicious scripts into trusted websites. This exploitation can compromise user data, manipulate site content, and perform actions on behalf of unsuspecting users.

For the first lab of this path and *final lab* of the assignment, I have chosen the lab named Reflected XSS into HTML context with nothing encoded.

To solve the lab, we simply needed to operate an XSS by typing in the Search line:



And we enter a command in the Search bar to start interacting. See below the command I used to do that.



After pressing on the search button next to the search bar, we have already solved the lab.



Conclusion

This final lab concluded the assignment 4 as it is. This lab was very helpful to give us a lot of hands-on about common web vulnerabilities and how they work and how we operate them. We need to know how these vulnerabilities are exploited before we can launch ourselves in the investigating field. Here are the end results with the point mechanic:

Apprentice (1p): 12x for a total of 12p Practitioner (2p): 4x for a total of 8p Expert (3p): 0x for a total of 0p

Total combined points: 20

Objective: 20p total and 10 different learning paths DONE

References: Only the videos provided with each lab (example: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mW4pFLD-4Hw&ab_channel=MichaelSommer for the last lab (XSS))