

VulnWebApp (VWA) Security Report

Code Revision: 1.0.0.0

Company: Acme Inc.

Report: VWA240601

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Date: [2024/05/23]

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VWA240601## - XSS in User Chat - Critical

Vulnerability Exploited: A07: 2017 Cross-Site Scripting XSS

Severity: Critical

System: VWA Web Application

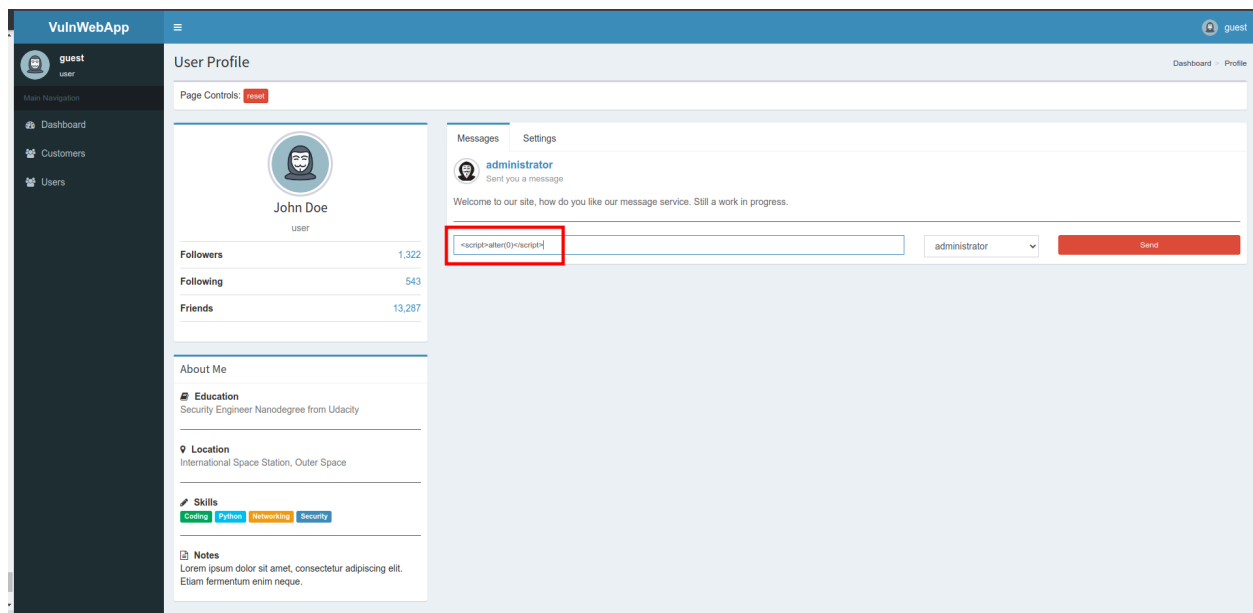
Vulnerability Explanation:

Cross-site scripting (XSS) is a common web security vulnerability that allows attackers to inject malicious scripts into web pages viewed by other users. These scripts can steal sensitive information, hijack user sessions, or deface websites.

In the internal chat section, the system is not doing any sanitization and allowing scripts, or tags with javascript code on the client side. I tested by sending `<script>alert(1)</script>` in the internal chat box.

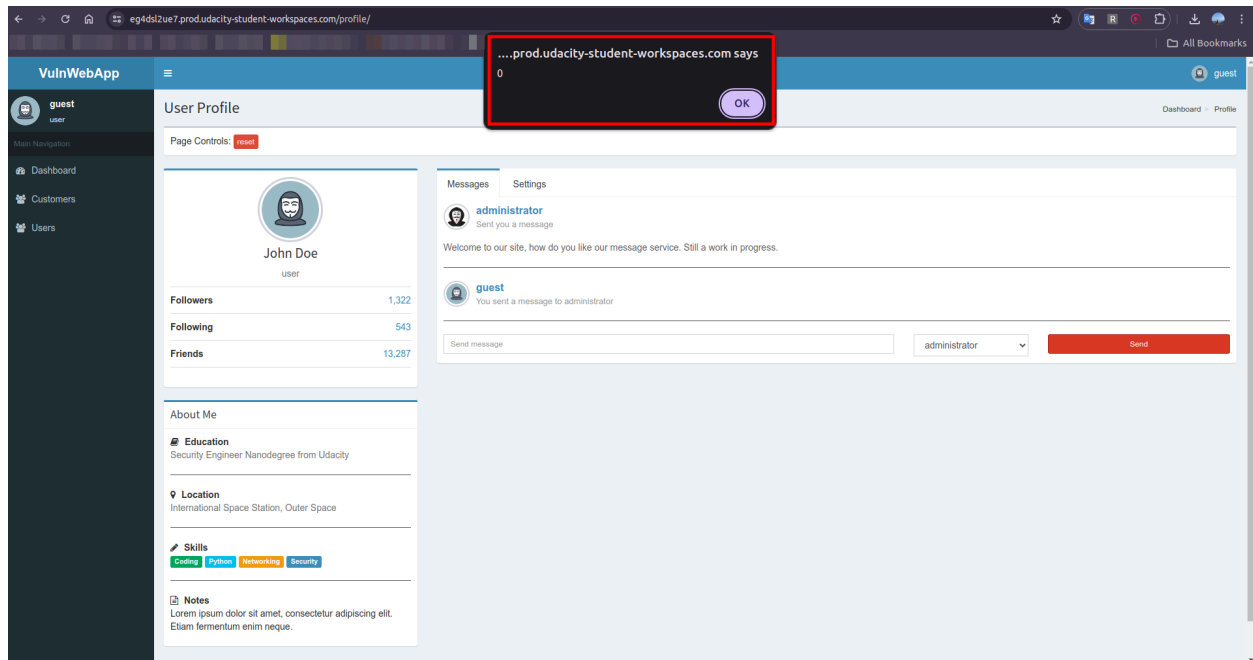
Vulnerability Walk-thru:

1. Login normally to the web app.
2. Goto user profile section and insert a script say `<script>alert(0)</script>` in the chat section.



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3. With this we are able to inject javascript in the chat section.



Recommendations:

1. Preventing XSS requires separation of untrusted data from active browser content. This can be achieved by:
2. Using frameworks that automatically escape XSS by design, such as the latest Ruby on Rails, React JS. Learn the limitations of each framework's XSS protection and appropriately handle the use cases which are not covered.
3. Escaping untrusted HTTP request data based on the context in the HTML output (body, attribute, JavaScript, CSS, or URL) will resolve Reflected and Stored XSS vulnerabilities. The [OWASP Cheat Sheet 'XSS Prevention'](#) has details on the required data escaping techniques.
4. Applying context-sensitive encoding when modifying the browser document on the client side acts against DOM XSS. When this cannot be avoided, similar context-sensitive escaping techniques can be applied to browser APIs as described in the [OWASP Cheat Sheet 'DOM based XSS Prevention'](#).
5. [OWASP Proactive Controls: Encode and Escape Data](#)

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VWA240601## - XSS in Admin Chat - Critical

Vulnerability Exploited: A07: 2017 Cross-Site Scripting XSS

Severity: Critical

System: VWA Web Application

Vulnerability Explanation:

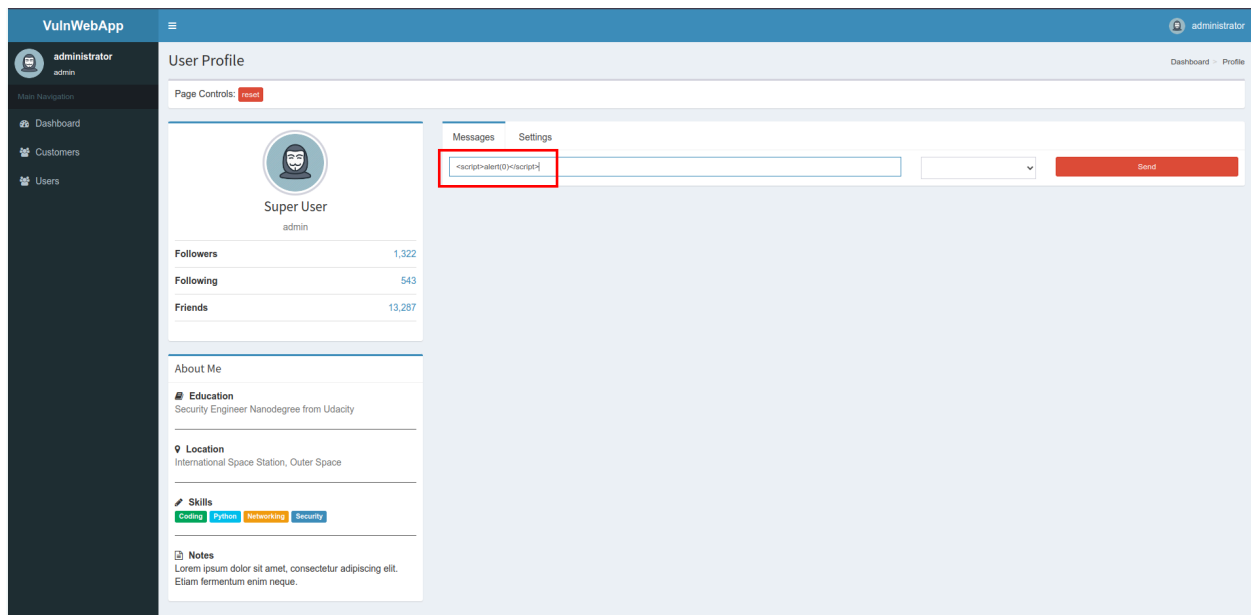
Cross-site scripting (XSS) is a common web security vulnerability that allows attackers to inject malicious scripts into web pages viewed by other users. These scripts can steal sensitive information, hijack user sessions, or deface websites.

In the internal chat section, the system is not doing any sanitization and allowing scripts, or tags with javascript code on the client side. I tested by sending<script>alert(1)</script> in the internal chat box.

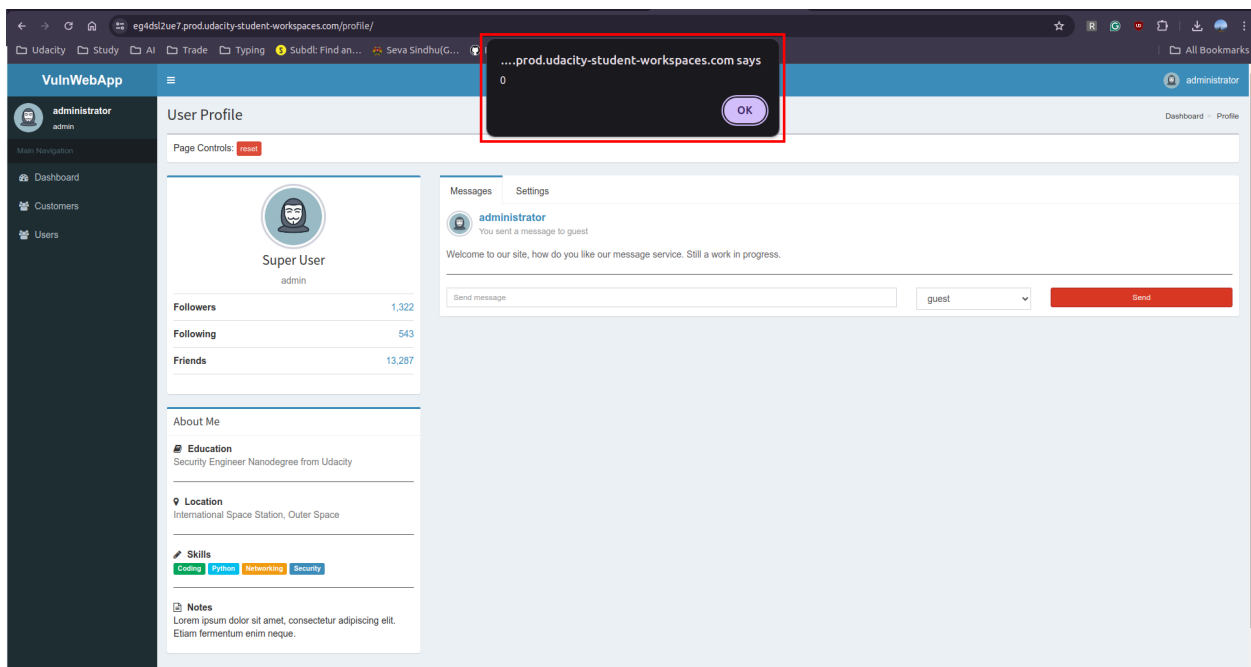
Vulnerability Walk-thru:

- 1.Login normally to the web app.
- 2.Escalate privileges to admin using cookie manipulation.
- 3.Goto admin profile section and insert a script say <script>alert(0)</script> in the chat section.

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4. With this, we are able to inject JavaScript in the chat section.



Recommendations :

6. Preventing XSS requires the separation of untrusted data from active browser content. This can be achieved by:
7. Using frameworks that automatically escape XSS by design, such as the latest Ruby on Rails, and React JS. Learn the

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limitations of each framework's XSS protection and appropriately handle the use cases that are not covered.

8. Escaping untrusted HTTP request data based on the context in the HTML output (body, attribute, JavaScript, CSS, or URL) will resolve Reflected and Stored XSS vulnerabilities. The [OWASP Cheat Sheet 'XSS Prevention'](#) has details on the required data escaping techniques.
9. Applying context-sensitive encoding when modifying the browser document on the client side acts against DOM XSS. When this cannot be avoided, similar context-sensitive escaping techniques can be applied to browser APIs as described in the [OWASP Cheat Sheet 'DOM based XSS Prevention'](#).
10. [OWASP Proactive Controls: Encode and Escape Data](#)

VWA240601## - SQL Injection - Critical

Vulnerability Exploited: A01: 2017 Injection

Severity: Critical

System: VWA Web Application

Vulnerability Explanation:

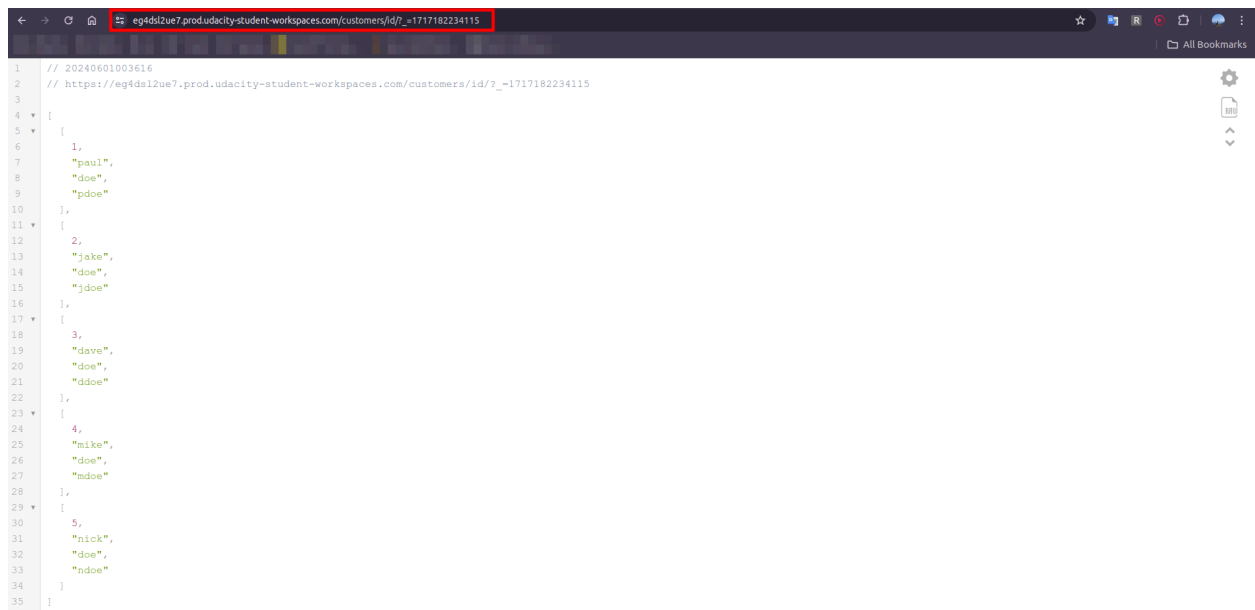
Inserting ' or 1 = '1 at the end of the url reveals all the user sensitive information. Ability to display the customer credentials with proper access/login using the sql injection in the url.

SQL injection (SQLi) is a type of security vulnerability that occurs when an attacker can manipulate SQL queries sent to a database through a web application. This manipulation can lead to unauthorized access to sensitive data, data manipulation, and in some cases, complete compromise of the underlying server.

Vulnerability Walk-thru:

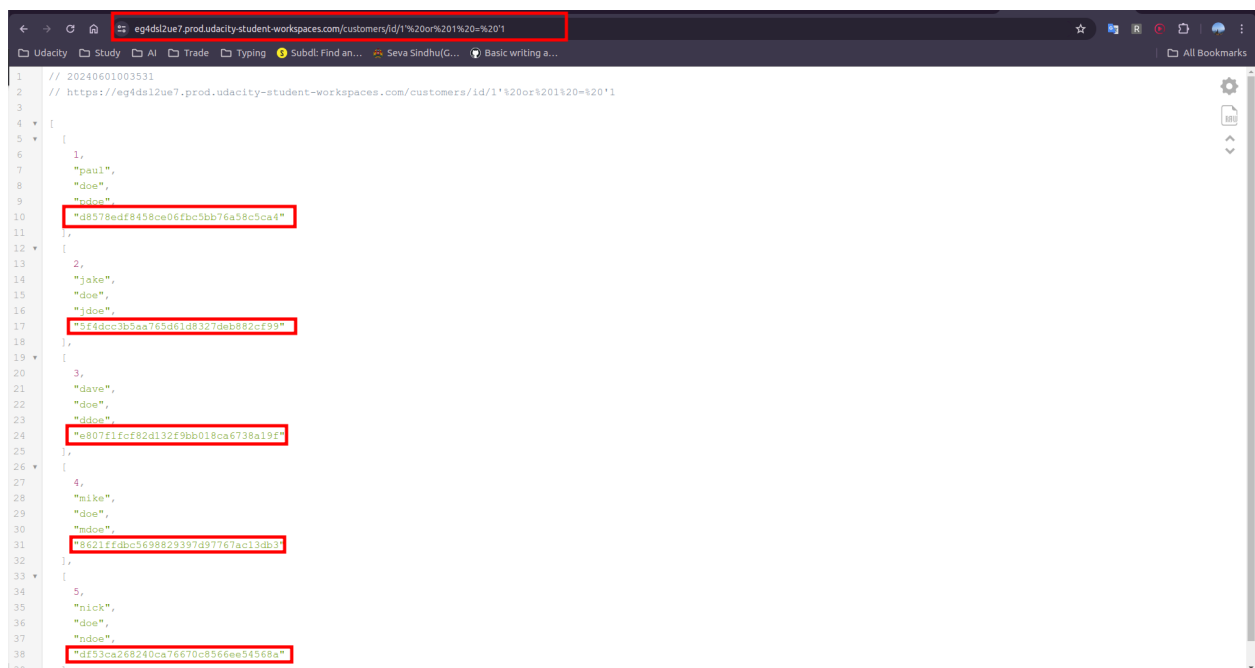
1. Login to the web app
2. Gain admin privileges via cookie manipulation.
3. Go to the customers tab

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```
1 // 20240601003616
2 // https://eg4ds12ue7.prod.udacity-student-workspaces.com/customers/id/1_1717182234115
3
4 [
5   [
6     1,
7     "paul",
8     "doe",
9     "pdoe"
10  ],
11   [
12     2,
13     "jake",
14     "doe",
15     "jdoe"
16  ],
17   [
18     3,
19     "dave",
20     "doe",
21     "ddoe"
22  ],
23   [
24     4,
25     "mike",
26     "doe",
27     "mdoe"
28  ],
29   [
30     5,
31     "nick",
32     "doe",
33     "ndoe"
34  ]
35 ]
```

4. Edit the URL and add ` or 1=' 1 towards the end of the url.



```
1 // 20240601003931
2 // https://eg4ds12ue7.prod.udacity-student-workspaces.com/customers/id/1'%20or%201%20-%201
3
4 [
5   [
6     1,
7     "paul",
8     "doe",
9     "pdoe"
10    "q8578a4d8458ce0d6bc9bb76a58c5ca4"
11  ],
12   [
13     2,
14     "jake",
15     "doe",
16     "jdoe"
17    "5f4dccc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf95"
18  ],
19   [
20     3,
21     "dave",
22     "doe",
23     "ddoe"
24    "a807f1fcf82d132f9bb018ca6738a198"
25  ],
26   [
27     4,
28     "mike",
29     "doe",
30     "mdoe"
31    "5621ffdb0c569829397a9776ac13db5"
32  ],
33   [
34     5,
35     "nick",
36     "doe",
37     "ndoe"
38    "df53ca269240ca76670cd566ee54568a"
39  ]
40 ]
```

5. Use hashid.py and checkhash.py to crack the hashes.

Recommendations:

1. The preferred option is to use a safe API, which avoids the use of the interpreter entirely or provides a parameterized interface, or migrate to use Object Relational Mapping Tools (ORMs).

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2. Note: Even when parameterized, stored procedures can still introduce SQL injection if PL/SQL or T-SQL concatenates queries and data, or executes hostile data with EXECUTE IMMEDIATE or exec().
3. Use positive or "whitelist" server-side input validation. This is not a complete defense as many applications require special characters, such as text areas or APIs for mobile applications.
4. For any residual dynamic queries, escape special characters using the specific escape syntax for that interpreter.
5. [OWASP Proactive Controls: Secure Database Access](#)
6. https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/Injection_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet.html

VWA240601## - Weak Password - High

Vulnerability Exploited: A03: 2017 Sensitive Data Exposure

Severity: High

System: VWA Web Application

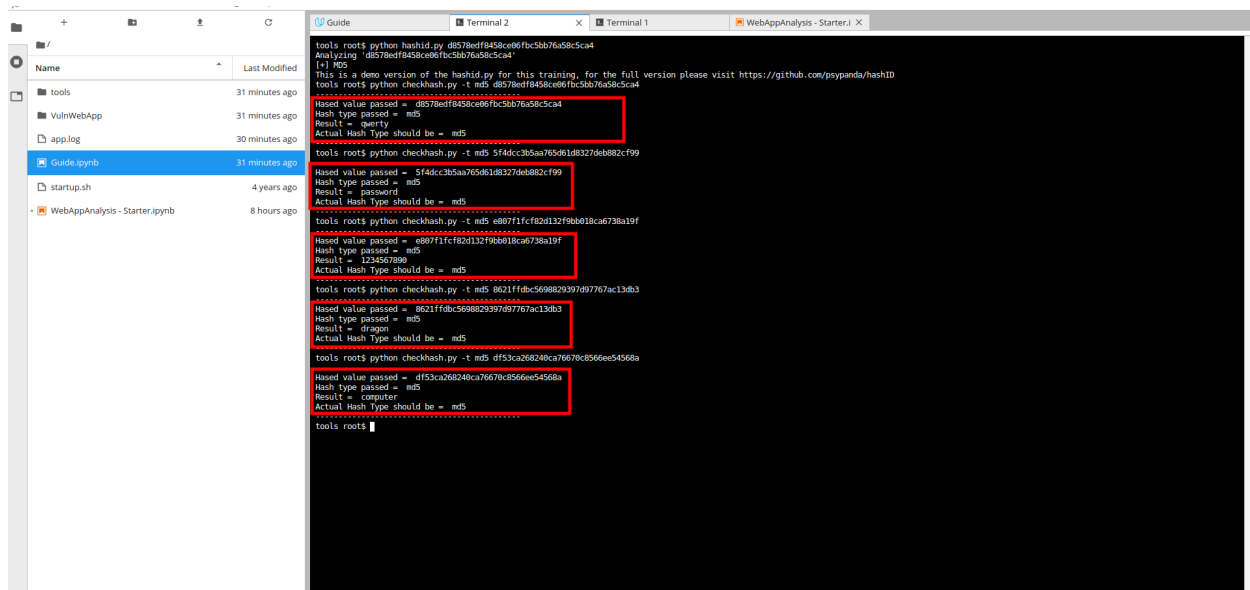
Vulnerability Explanation:

Use of weak hashing for password may result in data leakage as it is very easy to crack those hashes.

Vulnerability Walk-thru:

1. Login and navigate to the customers page.
2. After performing SQL injection, you can see the password hashes.
3. Use the tool hashid and checkhash to crack the hashes.

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Recommendations:

Retrieve the needed data only

https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/User_Privacy_Protection_Cheat_Sheet.html

VWA240601## - Brute Force Login - High

Vulnerability Exploited: A02: 2017 Broken Authentication

Severity: High

System: VWA Web Application

Vulnerability Explanation:

Successful in performing brute force attacks on the system.

This kind of vulnerability can occur when an attacker attacks an online application using a collection of common/harvest usernames and passwords using a brute force approach in the hope of discovering an account that is using a combination from the list.

VWA240524 - This document is confidential and for internal use only.

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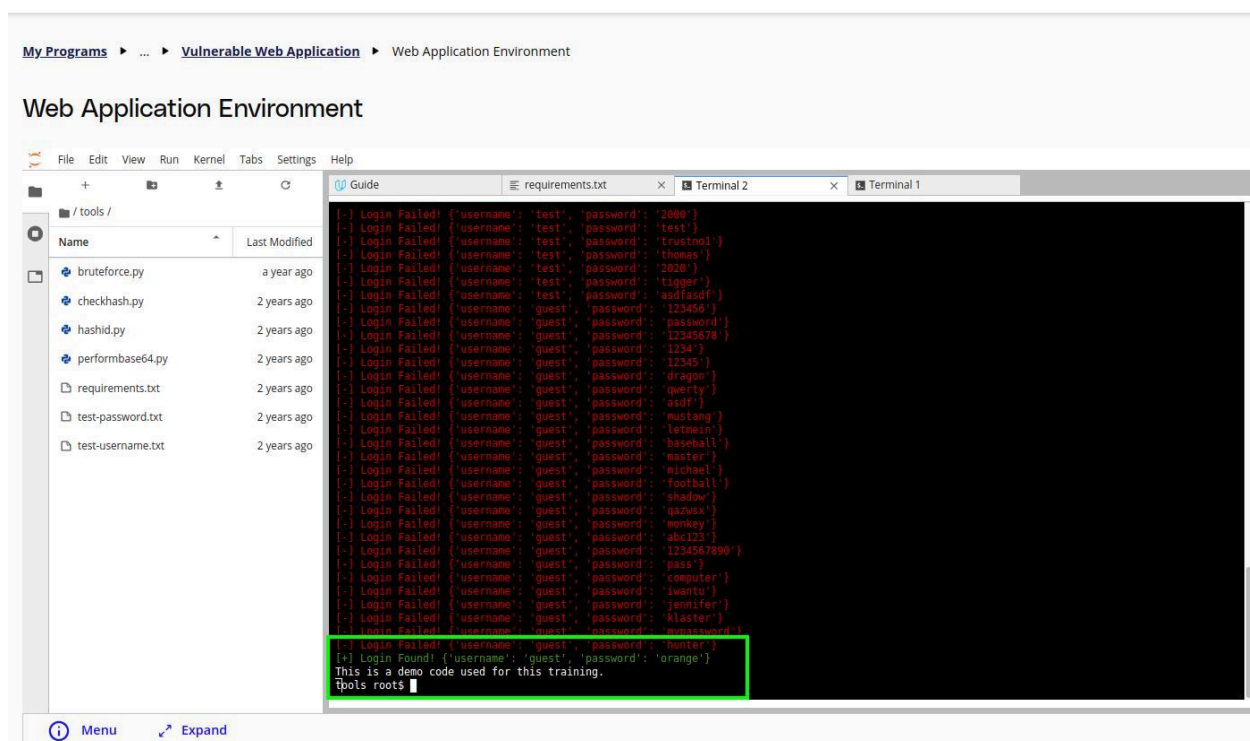
Vulnerability Walk-thru:

Use the bruteforce.py python tool which uses a collection of usernames and passwords to brute force attack.

I have used the below command in the terminal to do the attack:

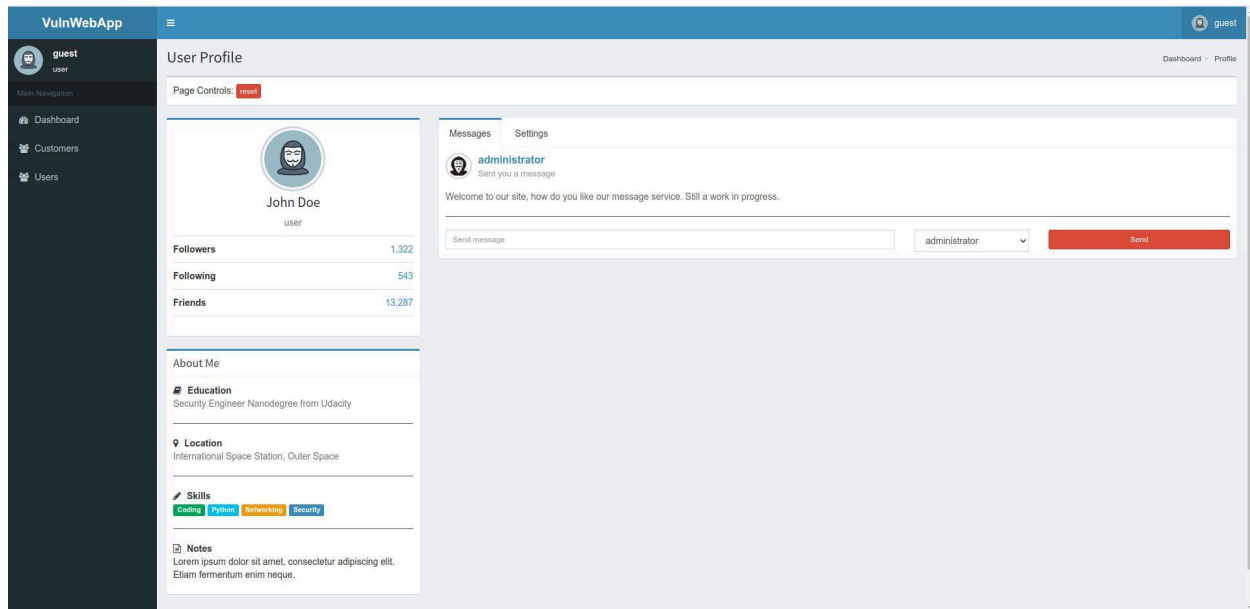
```
python bruteforce.py -U test-username.txt -P test-password.txt  
-d username=^USR^:password=^PWD^ -m POST -f "Login Failed"
```

<http://localhost:3000/login>



Running this command gave the username and password which exists for that app to log in.

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Recommendations :

1. Where possible, implement multi-factor authentication to prevent automated, credential stuffing, brute force, and stolen credential re-use attacks.
2. Do not ship or deploy with any default credentials, particularly for admin users.
3. Implement weak-password checks, such as testing new or changed passwords against a list of the [top 10000 worst passwords](#).
4. Limit or increasingly delay failed login attempts. Log all failures and alert administrators when credential stuffing, brute force, or other attacks are detected.
5. Use a server-side, secure, built-in session manager that generates a new random session ID with high entropy after login. Session IDs should not be in the URL, be securely stored and invalidated after logout, idle, and absolute timeouts.
6. [OWASP Proactive Controls: Implement Digital Identity](#)

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VWA240601## - Use of MD5 Hashing - High

Vulnerability Exploited: A03: 2017 Sensitive Data Exposure

Severity: High

System: VWA Web Application

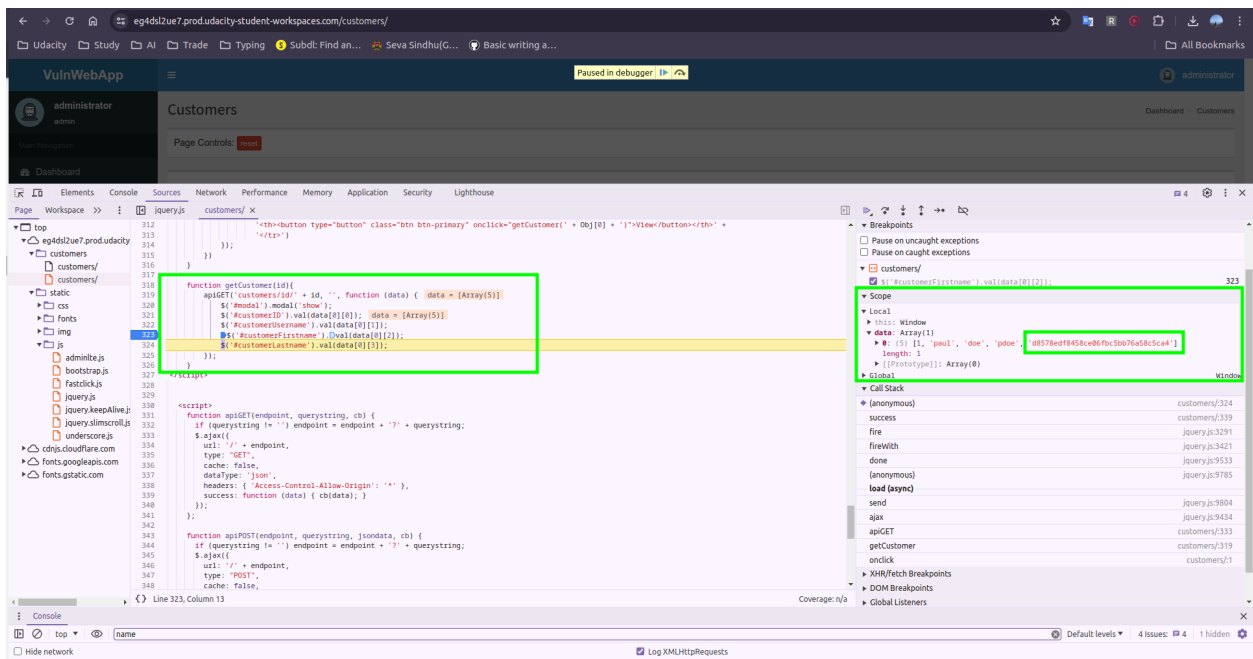
Vulnerability Explanation:

The app seems to be using a weak MD5 hashing to mask sensitive data what looks like password or something.

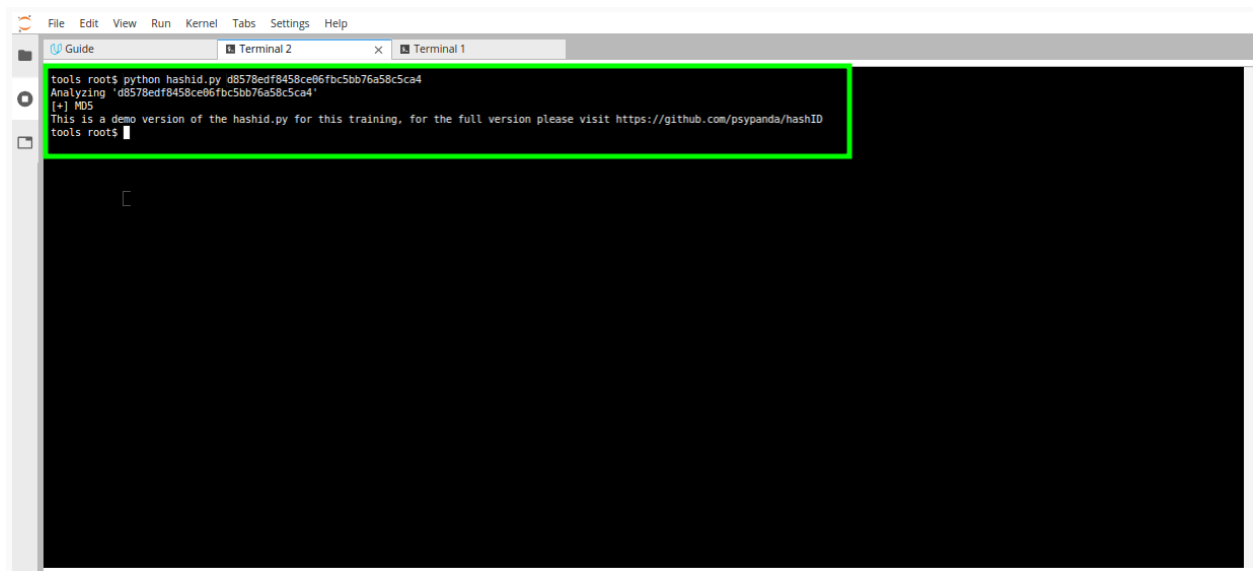
Vulnerability Walk-thru:

- 1.Login Normally
- 2.Gain Admin privilege through cookie manipulation as mentioned in the report.
- 3.Open developer tools using F12.
- 4.Go to sources tab and open customers file.
- 5.Add breakpoint at line 323.
- 6.View any of the customer data and use jump button to step to the breakpoint.
- 7.In the array select the last item which looks like some encrypted data.

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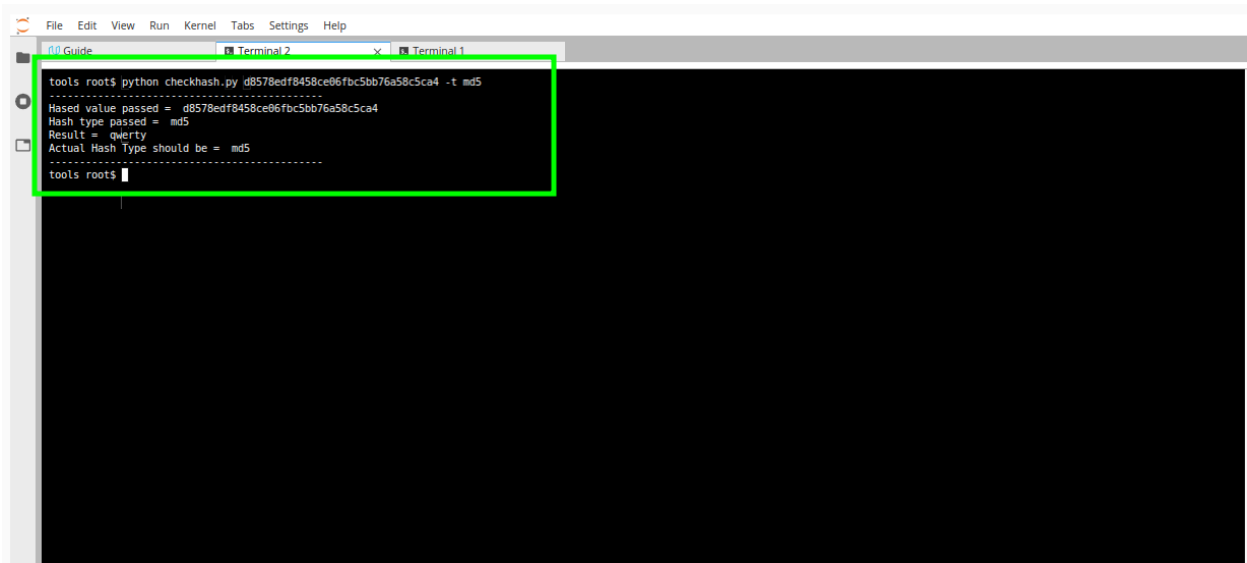


8. Use the hashid.py to know the hash type.



9. Use checkhash.py to crack the hash

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A screenshot of a terminal window with a green border. The terminal shows a command being executed in a root shell: 'tools root\$ python checkhash.py d8578edf8458ce06fbc5bb76a58c5ca4 -t md5'. The output of the command is displayed as follows: '.....', 'Hased value passed = d8578edf8458ce06fbc5bb76a58c5ca4', 'Hash type passed = md5', 'Result = qwerty', 'Actual Hash Type should be = md5', '.....', and 'tools root\$'. The terminal window has tabs for 'd0 Guide', 'Terminal 2', and 'Terminal 1'. The menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', 'View', 'Run', 'Kernel', 'Tabs', 'Settings', and 'Help'.

Recommendations:

1. Store passwords using strong adaptive and salted hashing functions with a work factor (delay factor), such as [Argon2](#), [scrypt](#), [bcrypt](#) or [PBKDF2](#).
2. Verify independently the effectiveness of configuration and settings.
3. Ensure up-to-date and strong standard algorithms, protocols, and keys are in place; use proper key management.
4. https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/Password_Storage_Cheat_Sheet.html

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VWA240601## - Cookie Manipulation - High

Vulnerability Exploited: A06: 2017 Security Misconfiguration

Severity: High

System: VWA Web Application

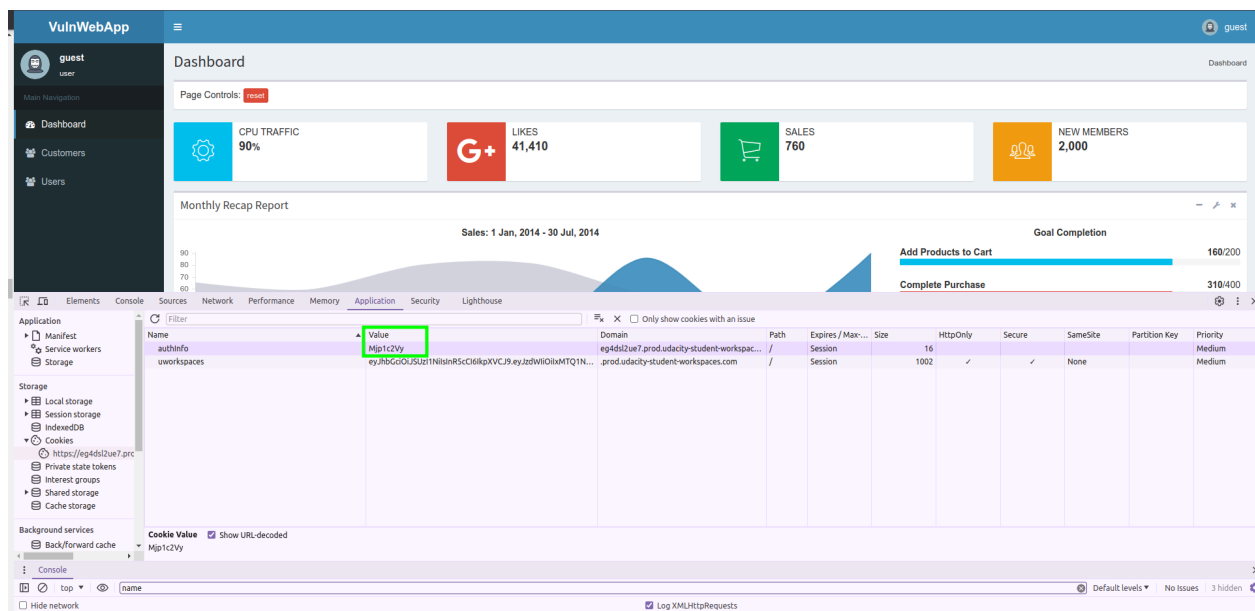
Vulnerability Explanation:

The cookie can be manipulated to gain admin right in the web app.

I have modified the cookie values in the web page and I was able to gain admin access to the web app.

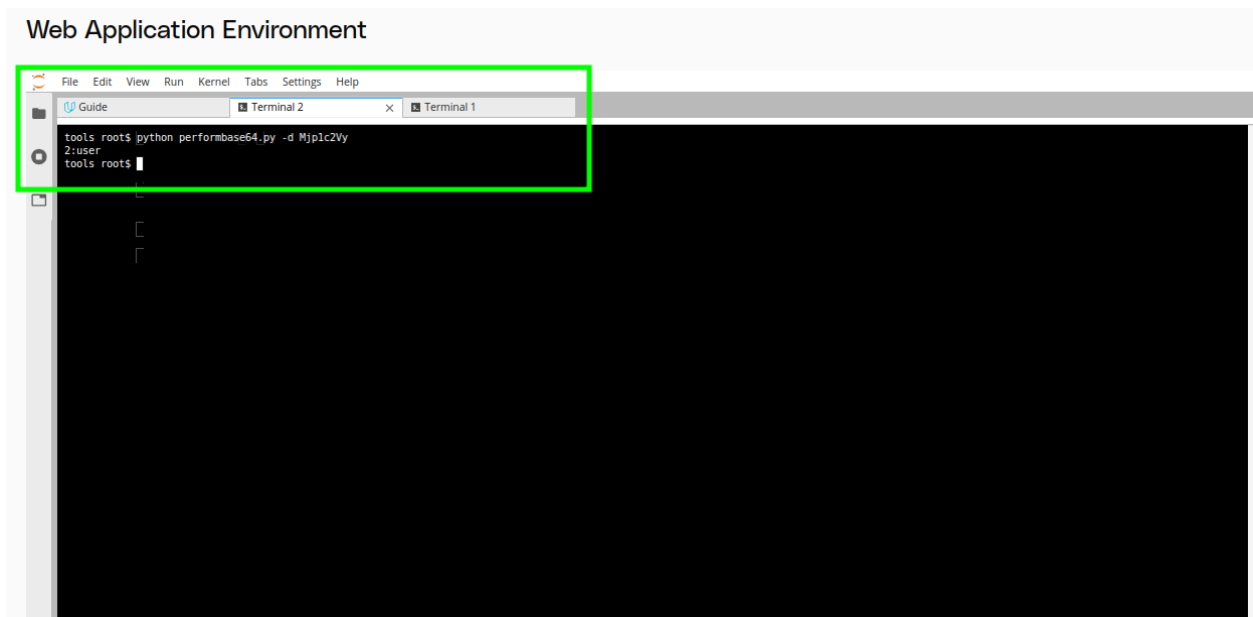
Vulnerability Walk-thru:

1. Login Normally
2. Open developer tool using F12
3. Go to the Cookies tab

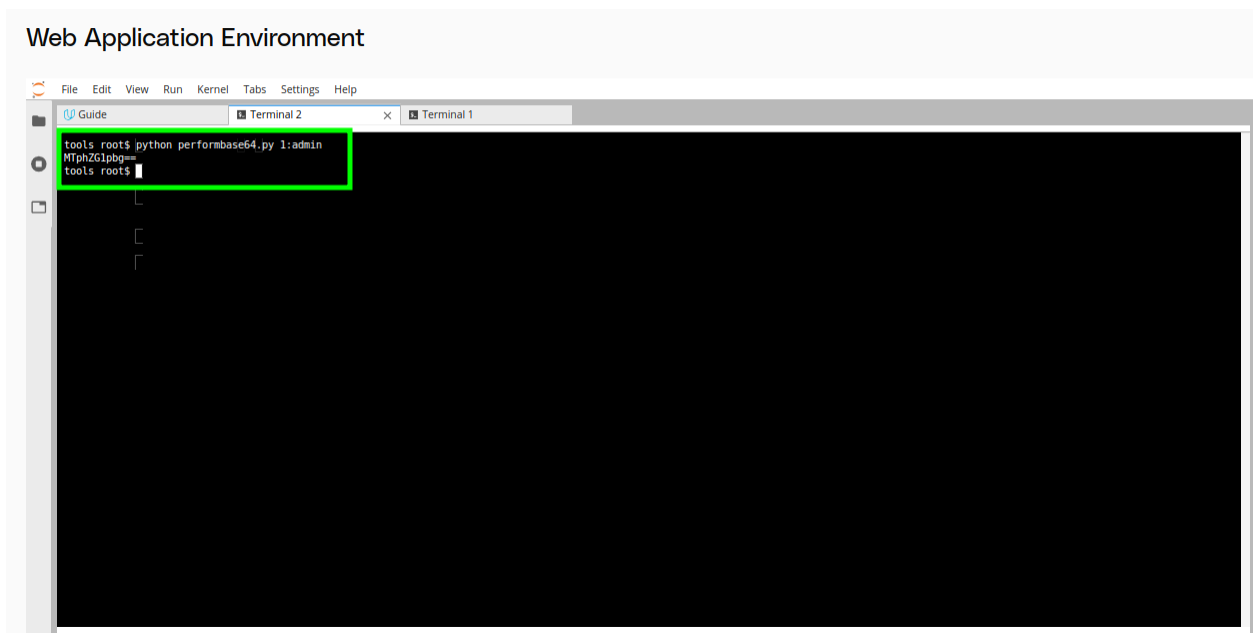


4. Perform base64 decoding of the cookie value which is returned for the user.

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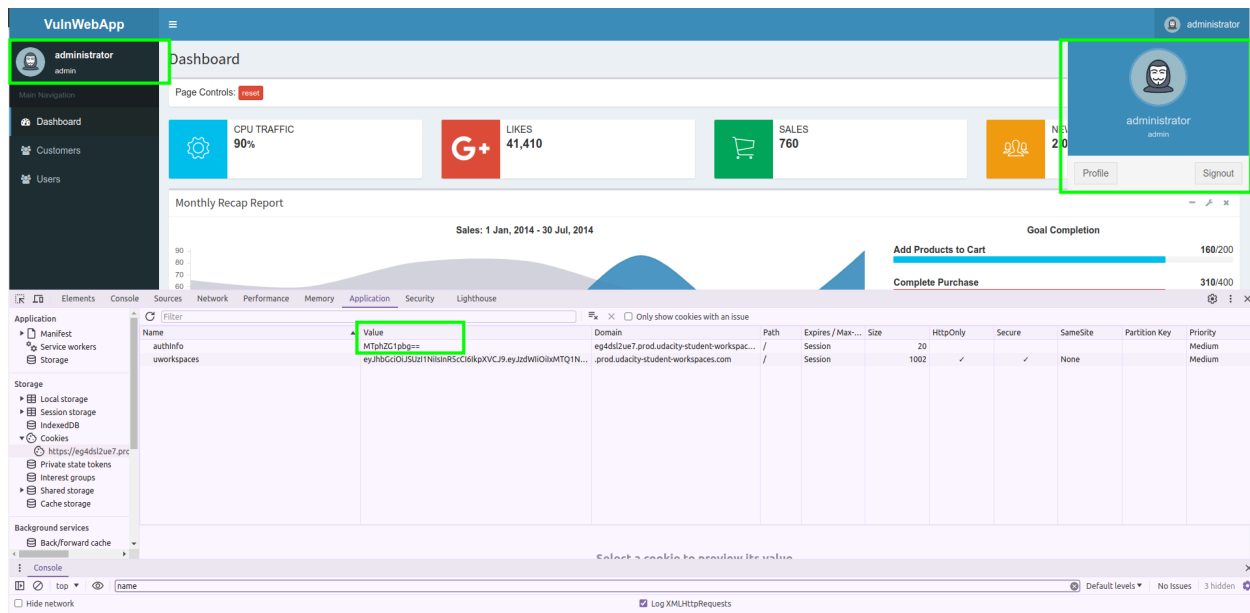


5. Encode **1:admin** via base64 to get the value to be replaced.



6. Replace the original cookie with the new encoded one and refresh the page.

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Recommendations:

Access control is only effective if enforced in trusted server-side code or server-less API, where the attacker cannot modify the access control check or metadata.

1. It's always a good practice to use a digital signature which can be used afterward to confirm that the data has not been changed.
2. Implement integrity checks for cookies to ensure they have not been tampered with. This could involve including a cryptographic hash (e.g., HMAC) of the cookie value along with the cookie itself. Upon receiving the cookie, the server recalculates the hash and compares it with the received hash to verify integrity.
3. [OWASP Testing Guide: Configuration Management](#)

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VWA240601## - Data Exposure - HIGH

Vulnerability Exploited: A06: 2017 Security Misconfiguration

Severity: High

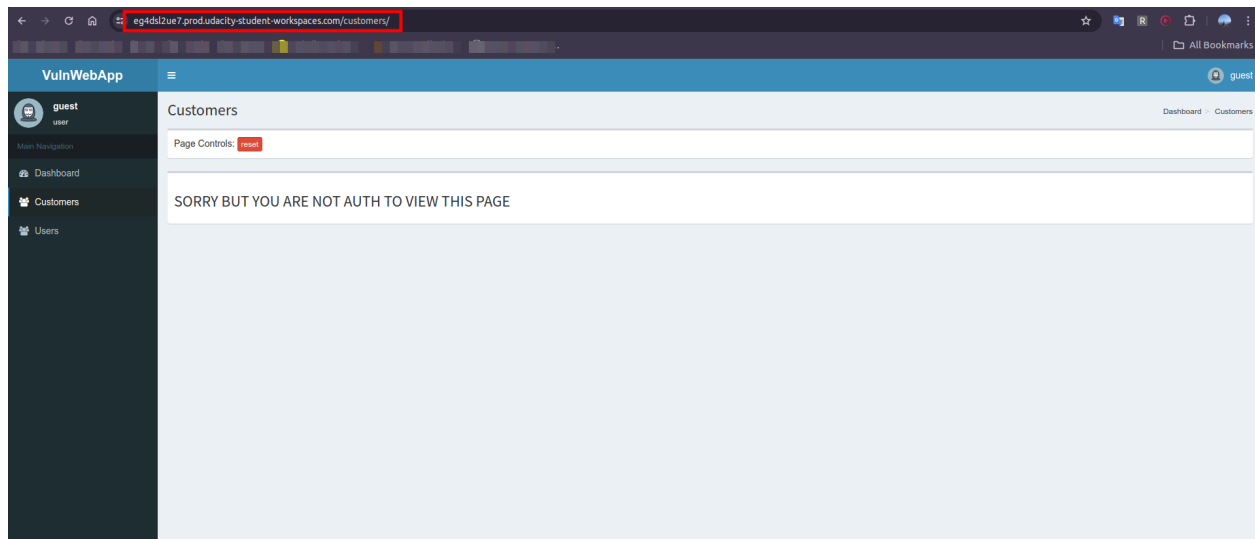
System: VWA Web Application

Vulnerability Explanation:

Attacker can access the data that is not authorized to be accessed. By adding /id/ towards the end of the url the data which is not supposed to be visible can be seen.

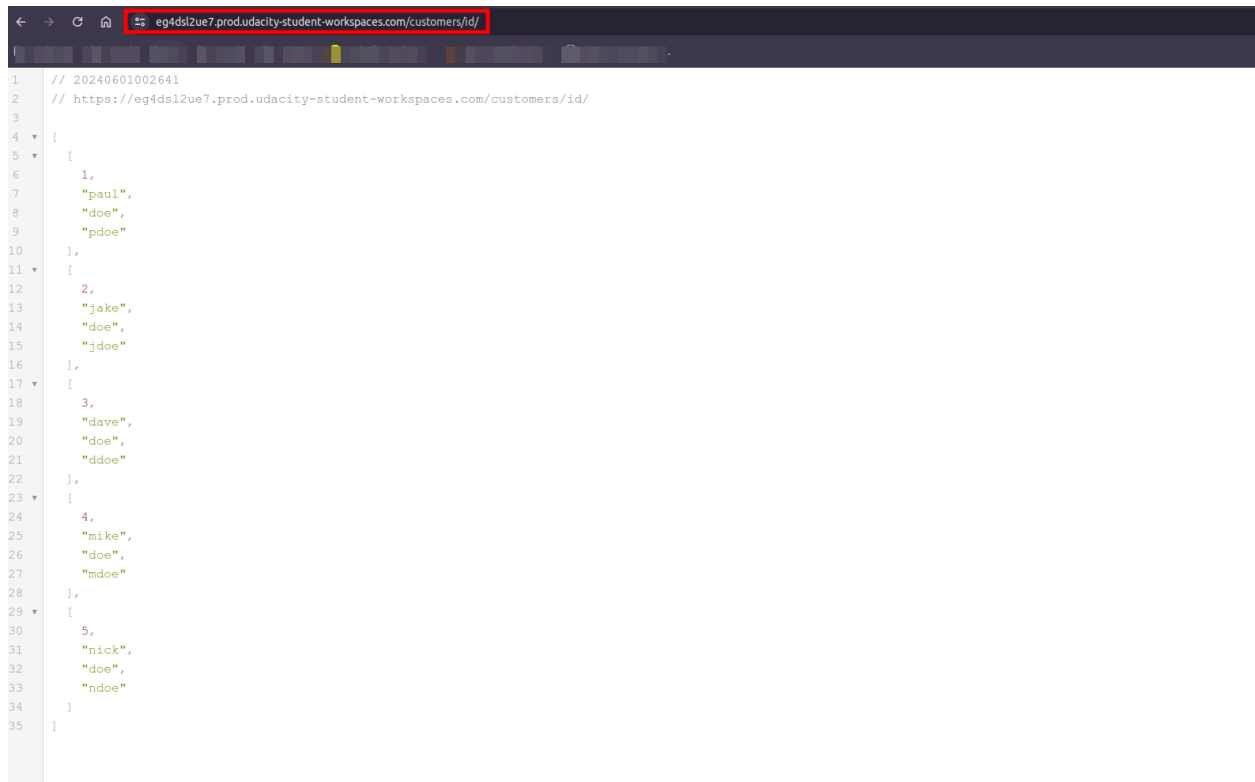
Vulnerability Walk-thru:

1. Login to the web app normally
2. Navigate to customer tab



3. Add /id/ to the end of the URL

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```
1 // 20240601002641
2 // https://eg4ds12ue7.prod.udacity-student-workspaces.com/customers/id/
3
4 [
5   [
6     1,
7     "paul",
8     "doe",
9     "pdoe"
10  ],
11  [
12    2,
13    "jake",
14    "doe",
15    "jdoe"
16  ],
17  [
18    3,
19    "dave",
20    "doe",
21    "ddoe"
22  ],
23  [
24    4,
25    "mike",
26    "doe",
27    "mdoe"
28  ],
29  [
30    5,
31    "nick",
32    "doe",
33    "ndoe"
34  ]
35 ]
```

Recommendations:

1. A task to review and update the configurations appropriate to all security notes, updates, and patches as part of the patch management process (see [A9:2017-Using Components with Known Vulnerabilities](#)). In particular, review cloud storage permissions (e.g. S3 bucket permissions).
2. A minimal platform without any unnecessary features, components, documentation, and samples. Remove or do not install unused features and frameworks.
3. An automated process to verify the effectiveness of the configurations and settings in all environments.
4. [OWASP Testing Guide: Configuration Management](#)
5. https://owasp.org/www-project-web-security-testingguide/latest/4-Web_Application_Security_Testing/02-Configuration_and_Deployment_Management_Testing/README

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VWA240601## - Broken Access For Customer's Data - High

Vulnerability Exploited: A05: 2017 Broken Access Control

Severity: High

System: VWA Web Application

Vulnerability Explanation:

A05:2017-Broken Access Control

One of the two request objects contains an async all to the server to retrieve the customer's current information.

By altering the initial request, we can use the API to retrieve the data of the other customer without any valid authentication.

Vulnerability Walk-thru:

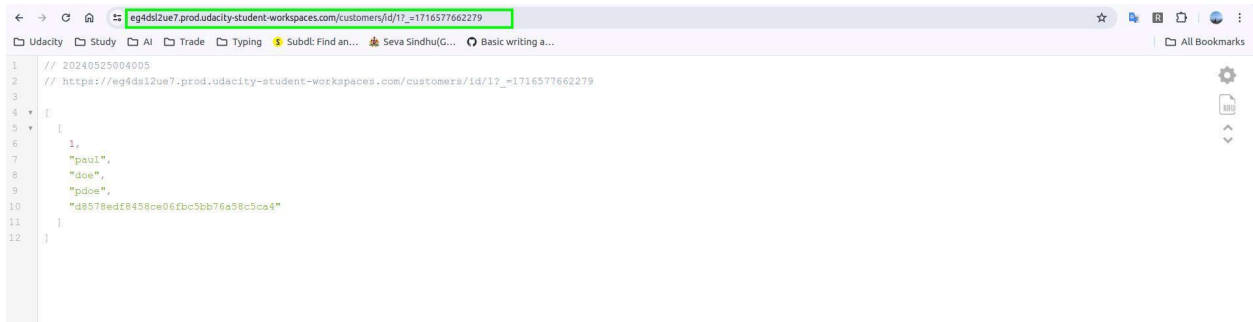
Once we get the admin access by manipulating the cookie:

1. Login Normally.
2. Gain admin access through cookie manipulation.
3. Go to the customer page.

ID	First Name	Last Name	Username	Options
1	paul	doe	pdoe	View
2	jake	doe	jdoe	View
3	dave	doe	ddoe	View
4	mike	doe	mdoe	View
5	nick	doe	ndoe	View

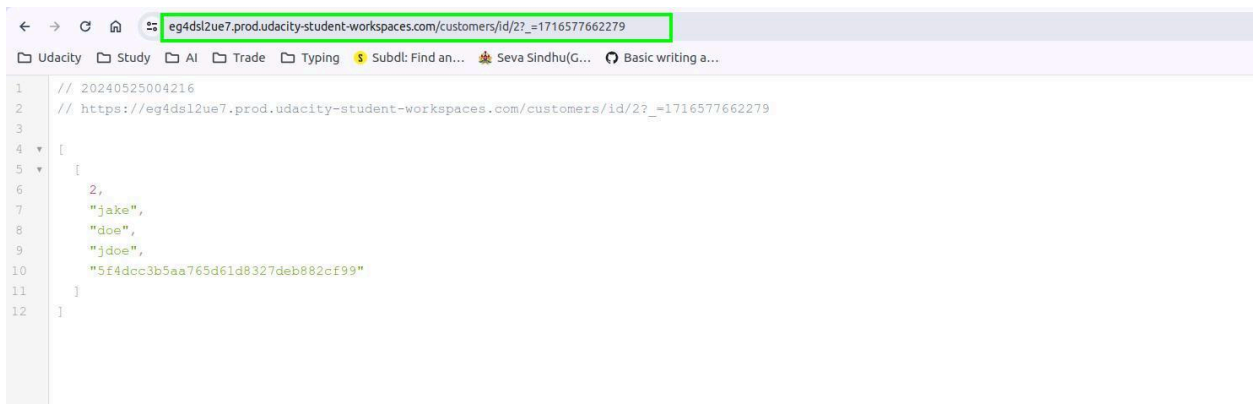
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4. Hit the view button.
5. Go to the xhr file, then go to the response tab, and then open a new window by double-clicking it.

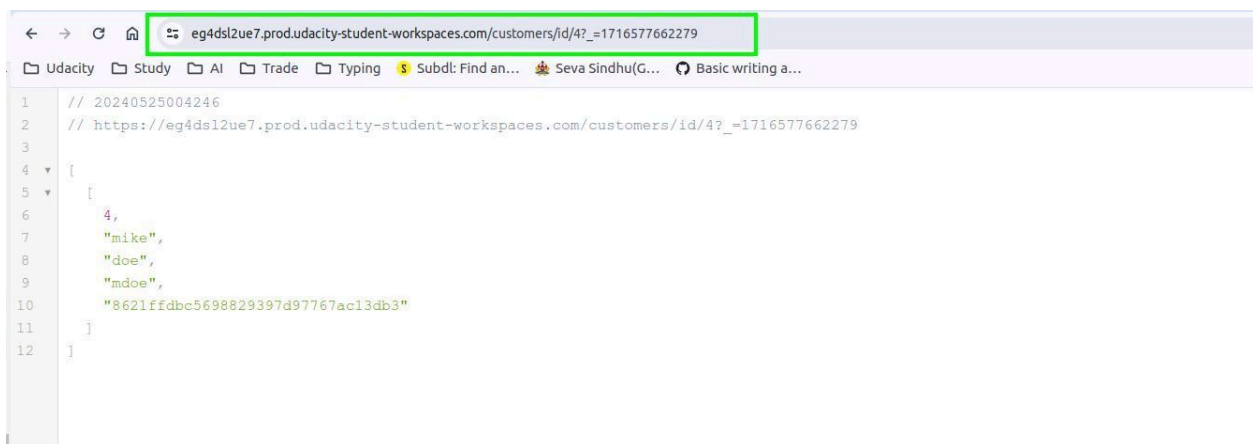


The screenshot shows a web browser with the address bar containing the URL `eg4dsl2ue7.prod.udacity-student-workspaces.com/customers/id/17_1716577662279`. The browser tabs include 'Udacity', 'Study', 'AI', 'Trade', 'Typing', 'Subdl: Find an...', 'Seva Sindhu(G...', and 'Basic writing a...'. The REST client interface shows a GET request to the same URL, and the response is a JSON array with one object containing user details: `[{"id": 1, "name": "paul", "email": "doe", "password": "d8578edf8458ce06fbc5bb76a58c5ca4"}]`.

6. Here in the address bar customer ID can be modified to retrieve the information of other users.



The screenshot shows the same web browser with the address bar modified to `eg4dsl2ue7.prod.udacity-student-workspaces.com/customers/id/2?_1716577662279`. The REST client shows a GET request to this URL, and the response is a JSON array with one object: `[{"id": 2, "name": "jake", "email": "doe", "password": "5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99"}]`.



The screenshot shows the web browser with the address bar modified to `eg4dsl2ue7.prod.udacity-student-workspaces.com/customers/id/4?_1716577662279`. The REST client shows a GET request to this URL, and the response is a JSON array with one object: `[{"id": 4, "name": "mike", "email": "doe", "password": "8621ffdbc5698829397d97767ac13db3"}]`.

Recommendations :

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1. Prevent users from scrapping all the data from the web application by rate limiting the access to the data on the site.
2. Refuse access to the non-public pages and validation to access these pages.
3. [OWASP Proactive Controls: Enforce Access Controls](#)

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VWA240601## - Broken Access For User's Data - High

Vulnerability Exploited: A05: Broken Access Control

Severity: High

System: VWA Web Application

Vulnerability Explanation:

A05:2017-Broken Access Control

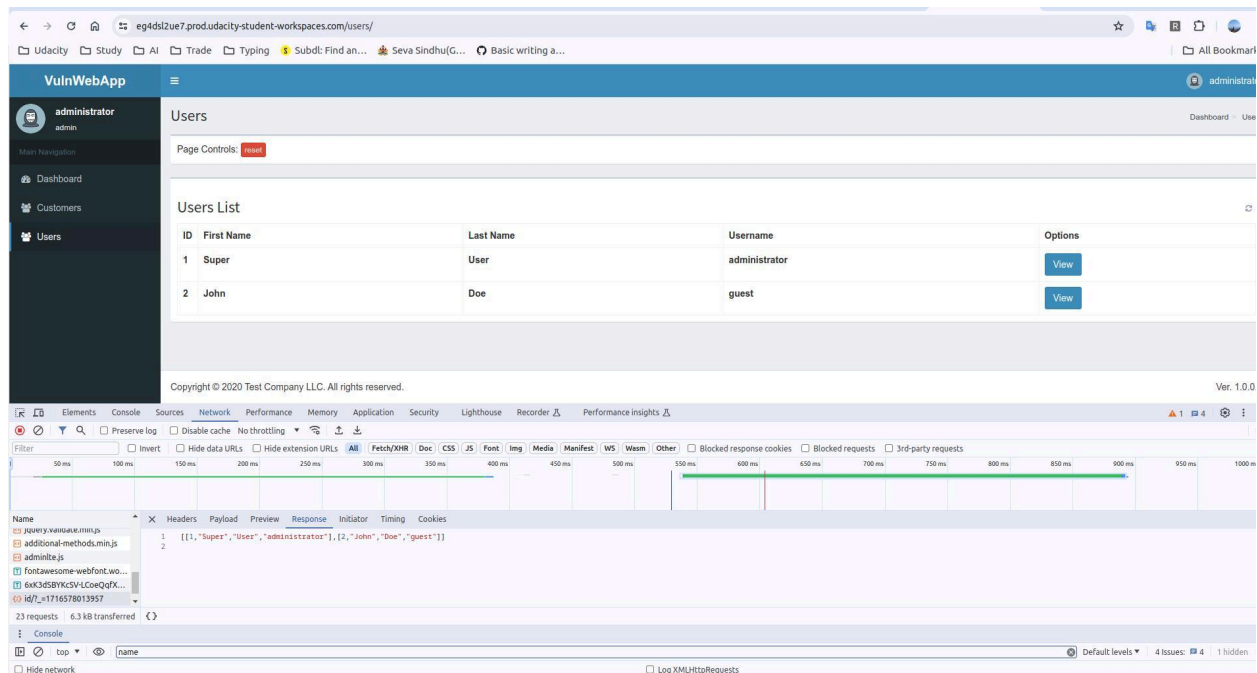
One of the two request objects contains an async all to the server to retrieve the user's current information.

By altering the initial request, we can use the API to retrieve the data of the other users without any valid authentication.

Vulnerability Walk-thru:

Once we get the admin access by manipulating the cookie:

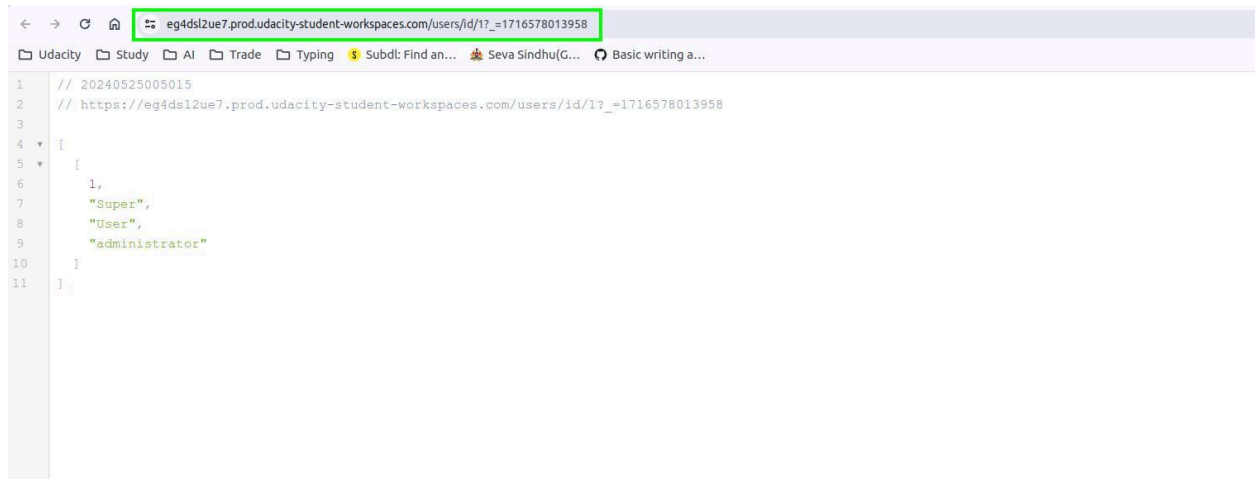
1. Login normally to the web app.
2. Gain admin right using cookie manipulation.
3. Go to the user page.



4. Hit the view button.

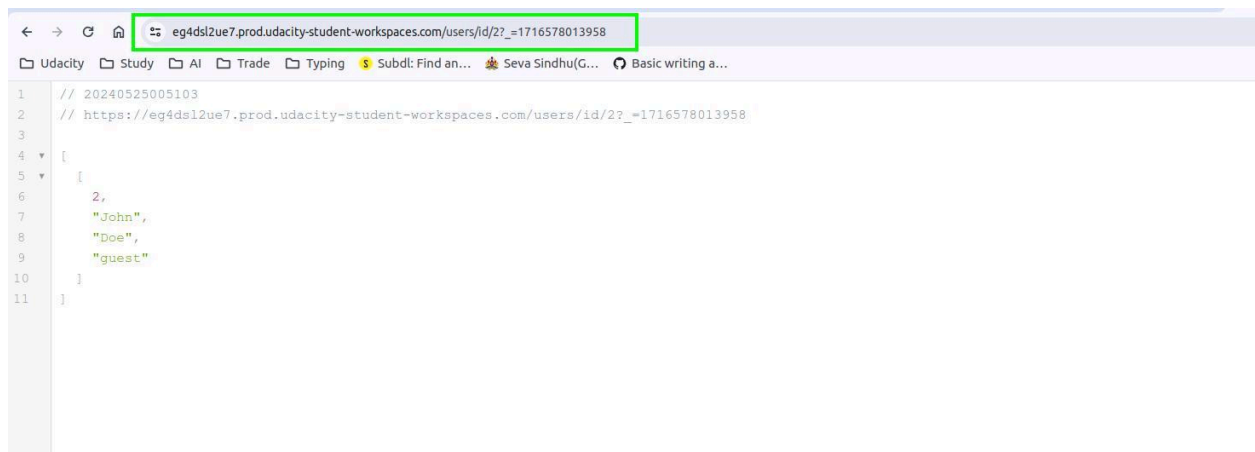
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5. Go to the xhr file, then go to the response tab, and then open a new window by double-clicking it.



```
// 20240525005015
// https://eg4dsl2ue7.prod.udacity-student-workspaces.com/users/id/1?_=1716578013958
[
  {
    1,
    "Super",
    "User",
    "administrator"
  }
]
```

6. Here in the address bar user ID can be modified to retrieve the information of other users.



```
// 20240525005103
// https://eg4dsl2ue7.prod.udacity-student-workspaces.com/users/id/2?_=1716578013958
[
  {
    2,
    "John",
    "Doe",
    "guest"
  }
]
```

Recommendations:

1. Prevent users from scrapping all the data from the web application by rate limiting the access to the data on the site.
2. Refuse access to the non-public pages and validation to access these pages.
3. [OWASP Cheat Sheet: Access Control](#)

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