

## Lecture 1

### What is security?

- Computer security studies how systems behave in the presence of **an adversary**

### The Security Mindset

- Thinking like an **attacker**
  - Understand techniques for circumventing security
  - Look for ways security can break (not reasons why it won't)
    - Looks for weakest links
    - Identify assumptions that security depends on
    - Not constrained by system designer's worldview
- Thinking like a **defender**
  - Know what you are defending, and against whom
  - Weigh benefit vs. costs
  - Rational paranoia (suspicion)

### Thinking like a **defender**

- Security policies
  - What assets are we trying to protect
  - What properties are we trying to enforce
    - Confidentiality
    - Integrity
    - Privacy
    - Authenticity
- Threat models
  - Who are our adversaries
  - What's their motives and capabilities
  - What kinds of attacks do we need to prevent
- Assessing risk
  - What would security breaches cost us
    - Direct: money, property, safety
    - Indirect: reputation, future business, well being
  - How likely are these costs
    - Probability of attacks
    - Probability of success

- Countermeasures
  - Technical countermeasures
  - Nontechnical countermeasures
    - Law, policy, procedures, training, auditing, incentives
- Security costs
  - No security mechanism is free
    - Direct: design, implementation, enforcement, false positives
    - Indirect: lost productivity, the added complexity
  - Challenge is to rationally weigh the cost vs. risk

### **Secure Design**

- Common mistake: convince yourself that the system is secure
- Better approach: identify the weakness of your design and focus on correcting them
- Secure design is a process

### **Where to focus defenses**

- Trusted components
  - Parts that must function correctly for the system to be secure
- Attack surface
  - Parts of the system exposed to the attacker

## **Lecture 2**

### **When is a program secure**

- When it does exactly what it should
- When it does **NOT** do bad things
  - Delete or corrupt important files
  - Crash my system
  - Send my password over the internet
  - ...

### **Weird machines**

- Complex systems always contain **unintended functionality**
- An **exploit** is a mechanism by which an attacker triggers **unintended functionality**
- Security requires understanding the intended and the unintended functionality

## What is a software vulnerability

- A bug: allows an **unprivileged** user capability that should be **denied**
- Most classic: **violating “control-flow integrity” (the attacker can run their code)**
- Involves violating assumptions of the programming language or its run-time

## Starting exploits

- Low-level details of how exploits work (how can a remote attacker run their code)
- Threat model
  - Victim code is **handling input** that comes from across a security boundary
  - Want to protect the **integrity fo execution & confidentiality of data**

## Buffer Overflows

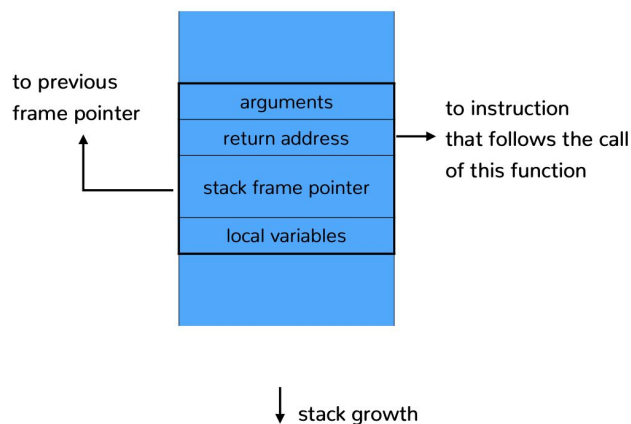
- Definition: an anomaly (abnormal thing) that occurs when a program writes data beyond the boundary of a buffer
- Archetypal (original) software vulnerability
  - If your program crashes with memory faults, you probably have a buffer overflow vulnerability
- **Why interesting**
  - Sometimes a single byte is all the attacker needs
  - Co-evolution of defenses and exploitation techniques
- **How are they introduced**
  - No automatic bounds checking in c/c++
  - Many C stdlib functions make it easy to go pass the bounds
  - ***String manipulation functions like gets(), strcpy(), and strcat() all write to the destination buffer until they encounter a terminating ‘\0’ byte in the input***
  - **!!! whoever is providing the input controls**
- What do we need to know
  - How c arrays work
  - How memory is laid out
  - How function calls work
  - How to turn an array overflow into an exploit

## Linux process memory layout

- Stack: top
- Heap: under the stack
- Data: under the heap
- Text: under the data; executable code

## Stack

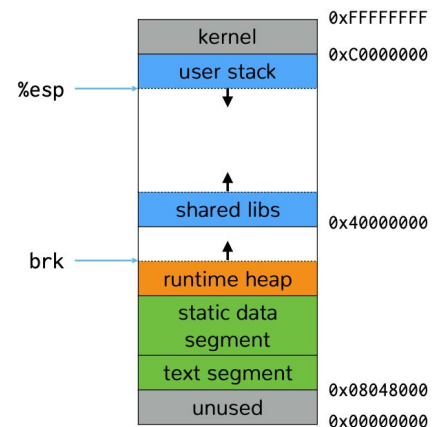
- Divided into frames
- Stack pointer points to the top of stack (esp)
- Frame pointer points to caller's stack frame (ebp)
- Stack frame



- Example

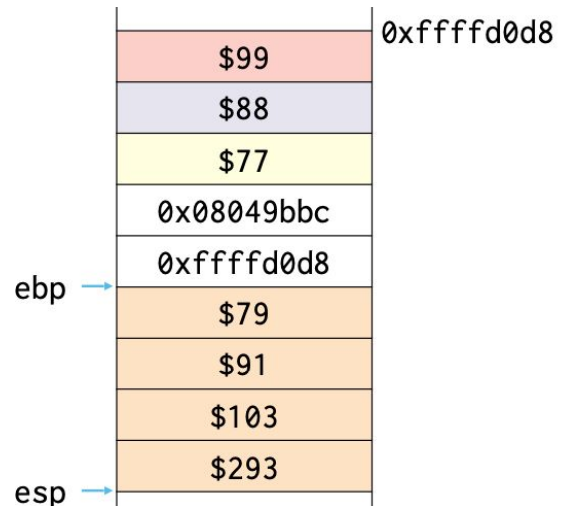
```
1 int foobar(int a, int b, int c)
2 {
3     int xx = a + 2;
4     int yy = b + 3;
5     int zz = c + 4;
6     int sum = xx + yy + zz;
7
8     return xx * yy * zz + sum;
9 }
10
11 int main()
12 {
13     return foobar(77, 88, 99);
14 }
```

- Note that line 7: ebp is where foo starts, go down 4 bytes is where the first argument plus 2 stored.
- Note at line 10: go down 8 bytes is where the second argument plus 3 stored



```
1 foobar(int, int, int):
2     pushl %ebp
3     movl %esp, %ebp
4     subl $16, %esp
5     → movl 8(%ebp), %eax
6     addl $2, %eax
7     movl %eax, -4(%ebp)
8     movl 12(%ebp), %eax
9     addl $3, %eax
10    movl %eax, -8(%ebp)
11    movl 16(%ebp), %eax
12    addl $4, %eax
13    movl %eax, -12(%ebp)
14    movl -4(%ebp), %edx
15    movl -8(%ebp), %eax
16    addl %eax, %edx
17    movl -12(%ebp), %eax
18    addl %edx, %eax
19    movl %eax, -16(%ebp)
20    movl -4(%ebp), %eax
21    imull -8(%ebp), %eax
22    imull -12(%ebp), %eax
23    movl %eax, %edx
24    movl -16(%ebp), %eax
25    addl %edx, %eax
26    leave
27    ret
28
29 main:
30     pushl %ebp
31     movl %esp, %ebp
32     pushl $99
33     pushl $88
34     pushl $77
35     call foobar(int, int, int)
36     addl $12, %esp
37     nop
38     leave
39     ret
```

- Note at line 13: go down 12 bytes is where the third argument plus 4 stored
- Passed in arguments are stored at **eax**
- Then use **edx** as a temp to calculate the sum of xx, yy, and zz



- After returning, ebp jumps back to the saved ebp

## Stack Buffer Overflow

- Source string of strcpy is controlled by the attacker, and **destination is on the stack**
  - The attacker gets to control where the function returns
  - The attacker can transfer control to anywhere
- Shellcode
  - Small code fragment that receives initial control in a control flow hijack exploit
  - The earliest attacks used shellcode to execute a shell
  - Restrictions
    - Cannot contain null characters (use NOP instead)
    - Must avoid line-breaks
    - The exact address of shellcode start is not easy to guess (NOP sled)
- Defenses
  - **Avoid unsafe functions**
    - Strcpy, strcat, gets, etc
    - **Cons:**
      - Non-library functions might be vulnerable
      - Requires manual code rewrite
      - No guarantee that you considered every possible vulnerability
      - Alternative functions also error-prone
  - **Stack canary**
    - Special value put before return address
    - If buffer overflows, it gets overwritten

- Check canary before returning
- **Automatically** inserted by compiler
- **Pros:** no code changes required, only recompile
- **Cons:**
  - Performance penalty
  - Only protects against stack smashing
  - Fails if attacker can read memory
- **Separate control stack**
  - WebAssembly has a separate stack
  - Separating the program into two **distinct** regions: safe & unsafe stack
    - Safe stack: *return address, register spills, local variables ...*
    - Unsafe stack: everything else
  - **Cons:** control data is stored next to the user data
  - Modern usage: *Intel's shadow stack*
    - *Cannot update shadow stack manually*
    - *Need to rewrite code that manipulates stack manually*
- **ASLR (address space layout randomization)**
  - Change location of stack, heap, code, static variables
  - Layout must be **unknown** to the attacker
  - Randomize on every launch at **compile time**
  - Implemented on the most modern **OSes**
  - **PaX memory layout** → **add random base between**
  - **Pros:** no code changes or recompile required
  - **Cons:**
    - Need compiler, linker, loader support
    - 32-bit architecture get limited protection
    - Fails if the attacker can read memory
    - Load-time overhead
    - No execution img sharing between processes
- **Memory writable or executable, not both (W ^ X)**
  - Use MMU (memory management unit) to avoid shellcode execution
  - Ensure memory cannot be both writable & executable
  - Code → executable, not writable
  - Stack, hea[. Static vars → writable, not executable
  - Supported by modern processors and implemented in modern systems
  - **Pros:** no code changes or recompiles required
  - **Cons:**
    - Require hardware support
    - Can be defeated by [return-oriented programming](#)
    - Does not protect [JITed code \(Just In Time\)](#)

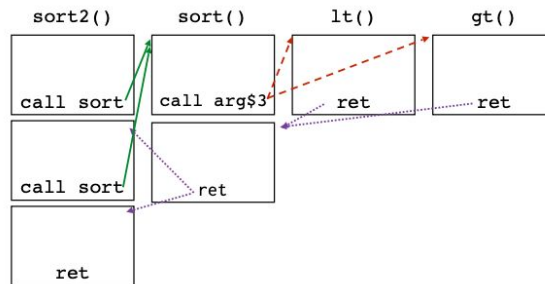
- **CFI (Control flow integrity)**
  - Check the destination of every indirect jump
  - Make sure **function returns, function pointers, and virtual methods** are jumping to somewhere allowed and known to the caller
  - **Pros:**
    - No code changes or hardware support
    - Protects against many vulnerabilities
  - **Cons:**
    - Performance overhead
    - Require smarter compiler
    - Require having **all code available** (need to check)
    - Does not protect against **data-only** attacks
  - Basically, restrict control flow to legitimate paths
    - **Direct transfer of control flow (direct jumps...): NO WORRIES**
      - Address is hard-coded. Not under attacker control
    - **Indirect transfer Ways**
      - Forward path: jump to an address in register or memory
      - Reverse path: return from function calls
    - **Control-flow graph example (CFG)**

```

void sort2(int a[],int b[], int len {
    sort(a, len, lt);
    sort(b, len, gt);
}

bool lt(int x, int y) {
    return x < y;
}

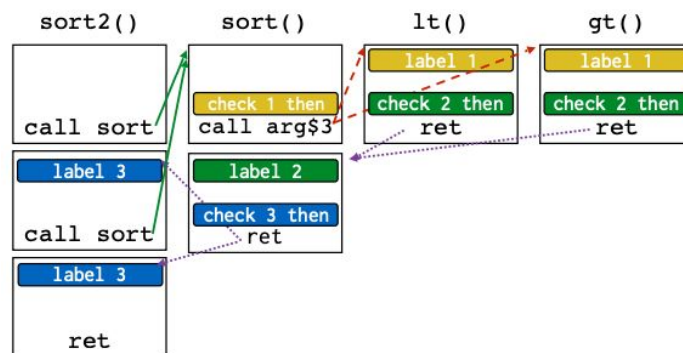
bool gt(int x, int y) {
    return x > y;
}
          
```



————— direct call  
 - - - - - indirect call  
 ..... return

- **Restrict jumps to CFG (*Fine Grained CFI - Abadi et al.*)**

- Assign **labels** to all indirect jumps and their targets
- Validate that label before jumping
- Need **hardware** support

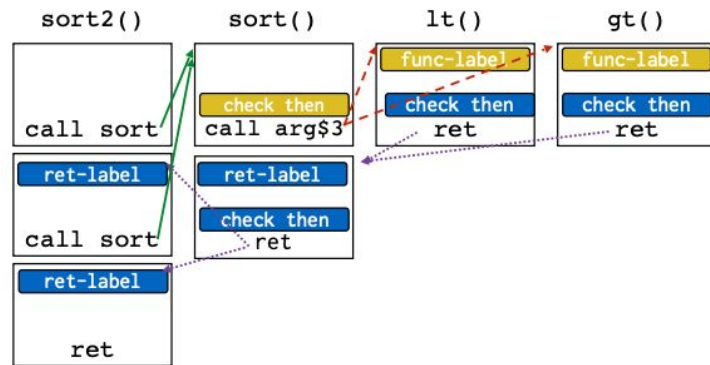


————— direct call  
 - - - - - indirect call  
 ..... return

- **Restrict jumps to CFG (*Coarse-grained CFI - bin-CFI*)**

- Label for **destination** of indirect calls, rets and indirect jmp





### Lecture 3

#### Defeat Buffer Overflow Protections

- **Stack canaries**
  - Assume it is impossible to subvert control flow without corrupting the canary
  - Attack
    - Targeted write gadget
    - Pointer subterfuge (trick - skip canary)
    - Overwrite function pointer elsewhere on the stack or heap
    - memcpy buffer overflow with fixed canary
    - Brute forcing in **forked process (same mem layout → guess & try)**
- **Separate control stack**
  - Need to compile c/c++ to WebAssembly
  - Put buffers, &var, and function pointers on the **user stack** such that it will overwrite function pointers when c programs compiled to WebAssembly
  - Shadow stack defeat
    - Find a function pointer and overwrite it to point to a shellcode
- **W ^ X: write XOR execute**
  - Still write to stack, and **jump to the existing code**
  - Search executable for code that does what you want (*system("/bin/sh"), libc ...*)
  - Find system call, replace the arguments → **"/bin/sh"**
- **ASLR**
  - Older Linux allows local attacker read the stack start address **"/proc/<pid>/stat"**
  - Each region has random offset, but layout is fixed

- Brute force for 32-bit binaries
- Heap spray for 64-bit binaries
- Derandomizing ALSR
  - Call **system()** with attacker argument
  - Target: [apache daemon](#) (a background process that handles requests for services, dormant when not required)
  - Attack steps
    - Find base of mapped region

*Mapped area:*



- Layout is fixed
    - Guess return pointer to **usleep()** with **non-negative argument**
    - **65,536 tries maximum**
    - No need to derandomize the stack base
  - Call **system()** with attacker arguments (command string)
    - Overwrite saved return pointer with the address of **ret** instruction in **libc**
    - Repeat until the address of buf looks like argument to **system()**
    - Append address of **system()**
- **CFI**
- Imprecision can allow for control-flow hijacking
    - Jump to functions that have the same label
    - Can then return to many more sites
- **Integer overflow attacks**
- Example-1
- ```
void vulnerable(int len, char *data) {
    char buf[64];
    if (len > 64)
        return;
    memcpy(buf, data, len);
}
```

```

void vulnerable(int len = 0xffffffff, char *data) {
    char buf[64];
    if (len = -1 > 64)
        return;
    memcpy(buf, data, len = 0xffffffff);
- }

```

- Example-2

```

void f(size_t len, char *data) {
    char *buf = malloc(len+2);
    if (buf == NULL)
        return;
    memcpy(buf, data, len);
    buf[len] = '\n';
    buf[len+1] = '\0';
- }

void f(size_t len = 0xffffffff, char *data) {
    char *buf = malloc(len+2 = 0x00000001);
    if (buf == NULL)
        return;
    memcpy(buf, data, len = 0xffffffff);
    buf[len] = '\n';
    buf[len+1] = '\0';
- }

```

- Three flavors (kinds) of integer overflows
  - Truncation bugs (assign 64 to 32)
  - Arithmetic overflow bugs (adding huge unsigned number - **ex2**)
  - Signedness bugs (treating signed number as unsigned - **ex1**)

## Slide 4

### Return-Oriented Programming

- Idea: make shellcode out of existing code
- Trick: code sequences ending in ret instruction
  - Overwrite saved eip on stack to pointer to first gadget, then second...
- Where to find those **ret** instructions
  - End of function
  - Any sequence of executable memory ending in **0xc3**
- Can express arbitrary programs
- Simple implementation
  - Write the instruction address on stack

- When return, esp subtracts
- Pop eip from the stack and get the next instruction

### Heap-based attacks


- What if the attacker can cause the program to use **freed objects**
- Heap corruption
  - Bypass security checks (isAuthenticated, buffer\_size, isAdmin, etc.)
  - Overwrite function pointers (especially **vtables**)
    - Each object contains a pointer to vtable
    - Vtable is an array of function pointers
    - Call looks up entry in vtable

### Use After Free (UAF)

- Victim: free object: free(obj)
- Attacker: overwrite the vtable of the object so entry (obj → vtable[0]) points to the attacker gadget (*that was freed*)
- **Temporal memory violation**

## Slide 5

### Principles of secure design

- High-level idea
    - Separate the system into isolated least-privileged compartments
    - Mediate interaction between compartments based on security policy
  - Unit of isolation
    - Physical machine
    - Virtual machine (**popular**)
    - OS process (**popular**)
    - Library
    - Function
    - ...
- 

coarse grain

fine grain
- **The Process Abstraction**
    - Each process is memory isolated from each other
    - Each process has its own UIDs (read/write privilege)
    - Each file has ACL (access control list → owner, group, other)
    - Process UIDs

- *Real user ID - RUID: parent's UID, who started the process*
- *Effective user ID - EUID: determines permission for process*
- *Saved user ID - SUID: save and restore EUID*
- SetUID
  - Superuser root ID = 0, can access any file
  - Fork & execution system calls: inherit 3 IDs from parent
  - SetUID system call lets you **change EUID**
  - 3 bits
    - Setuid: set EUID
    - Setgid: set EGroupID
    - Sticky bit:
      - On: only file owner, directory owner, and root can rename or remove file in the directory
      - Off: if user has write permission on directory, rename or remove files, even if **not** owner
- **Mechanism**
  - ACL → restrict which process can access files (OS)
  - Namespaces → partition kernel resources between processes (Linux)
  - Syscall filtering → allow/deny system calls and filter on their arguments (Seccomp-bpf)
  - Common & necessary: **memory isolation**
    - Each process gets its own virtual address space
    - **Memory addresses used are virtual addresses not physical (VA, IPA)**
    - When & how to translate
      - Whenever there is a memory access performed (load, store, fetch)
      - CPU's memory management unit (**MMU**)
        - Page: basic unit of translation:  $4Kb = 2^{12}$
        - Use multi-level page tables: sparse tree of page mappings
        - Each process gets its own tree (**page table walking**)
        - **Kernel has its own tree**
  - **Access control**
    - Not everything within a process' VA is accessible
    - Page descriptors contain access control information
    - Example: kernel's VM(emory) is mapped into every process but inaccessible in **user mode**
  - TLB (translation lookaside buffer)
    - Small cache of **recently translated addresses**
    - Gives physical page corresponding to virtual page
    - Tells if page mapping allows the access control
    - When context switch
      - Flush the TLB
      - If has process-context identifiers (PCID), no need to flush

- **Memory isolation in VM(emory)**
  - Isolate VM of one process from that of the other
  - Modern hardware supports **extended/nested page table entries**
  - TLB also tagged with VM ID(**VPID**, PCID) → address lookup
  - VMM is isolated from guest VMs: VMM is assigned VPID = 0
- **Key limitations**
  - Defeat VM/process isolation
    - Find a bug in the kernel or hypervisor
    - Find a hardware bug
    - Exploit OS/hardware **side-channels (cache based)**
      - Cache: smaller & faster
      - Kick out when collision
      - Shared system resource: Not isolated by process, VM, privilege level
  - Threat model: co-located VM
    - Attacker & victim are isolated **but on the same physical system**
    - Attacker is able to invoke functionality exposed by the victim
  - **Side channel**
    - Many algorithms have **memory access patterns**
    - Evict & time
      - Time the victim code
      - Evict parts of the cache & time it, repeat
      - Denote if slower, **then cache lines evicted must have been used by the victim**
    - Prime & probe
      - Prime the cache (access many memory locations so that previous cache contents are replaced)
      - Let the victim code run
      - Time access to different memory locations, **slower means evicted**
    - Flush & reload
      - Flush the cache
      - Let code run
      - Time access to different memory locations, **faster means evicted**

## Slide 6

### Malware

- Virus: code propagates by arranging itself to **eventually** be executed
- Worm: self-propagates by arranging itself to **immediately** be executed

- Malicious behavior: Runs with some user privileges
  - Malice
    - Can pop up messages
    - Trash files
    - Damage hardware
  - Espionage
    - Extract information
    - Keylogging, Screen capture, audio, etc
  - Economics
    - Botnet
    - Spam
    - Click Fraud
    - Extortion attacks
    - Steal credentials
    - Blackmail
- How does it run
  - Attack a network-accessible vulnerable service
  - Vulnerable client connects to remote system that sends over an attack “driveby”
  - Trick the user into running or installing (fake antivirus)
  - Attacker with local access downloads or runs directly
- Countermeasures
  - Signature-based detection
    - Look for bytes corresponding to virus code
    - Antivirus software is a multibillion dollar industry
  - Anti-virus arms race
    - Virus writers change viruses to evade detection
    - Virus encrypts its code; static code detection works less well
  - Cleanup
    - Rebuild from original media or backups
    - Some malware contains rootkits (hide its presence)
  - Analysis
    - Run in VM(machine) or sandboxed environment
    - Modern malware tries to detect if it runs in VM or fresh install and acts less maliciously

## **Slide 7**

### **HTTP protocol**

- Fetching resources from the internet (HTML documents)
- Resources have a uniform resource location (URL)

https : //cseweb.ucsd.edu : 443 / classes/fa19/cse127-ab/lectures ? nr=7&lang=en # slides  
scheme domain port path query string fragment id

- Clients & servers communicate by exchanging individual messages

## Anatomy of a Request

method path version  
GET /index.html HTTP/1.1  
-  
headers  
Accept: image/gif, image/x-bitmap, image/jpeg, \*/\*  
Accept-Language: en  
Connection: Keep-Alive  
User-Agent: Mozilla/1.22 (compatible; MSIE 2.0; Windows 95)  
Host: www.example.com  
Referer: http://www.google.com?q=dingbats  
-  
body  
(empty)   
-



## Anatomy of a Response

status code  
HTTP/1.0 200 OK  
Date: Sun, 21 Apr 1996 02:20:42 GMT  
Server: Microsoft-Internet-Information-Server/5.0  
Connection: keep-alive  
headers Content-Type: text/html  
Last-Modified: Thu, 18 Apr 1996 17:39:05 GMT  
Set-Cookie: ...  
Content-Length: 2543  
body <html>Some data... whatever ... </html>

## Many HTTP methods

- GET: get resource at the specified URL
- POST: create new resource at URL with payload
- PUT: replace current representation of the target resource with request payload
- PATCH: update part of the resource
- DELETE: delete the specified URL

## HTTP/2

- Major revision of HTTP released in 2015
- No major changes in how applications are structured. Major changes:
  - Allows **pipelining** requests for multiple objects
  - Multiplexing multiple requests over one TCP connection
  - Header compression
  - Server push

## Cookies

- Small piece of data that a server sends to the browser
- The browser then stores it and sends it back with subsequent requests
- Useful
  - Session management: logins, shopping carts, etc
  - Personalization: user preferences, themes, etc
  - Tracking: recording and analyzing user behavior
- **Setting cookies in response**

```
HTTP/1.0 200 OK
Date: Sun, 21 Apr 1996 02:20:42 GMT
Server: Microsoft-Internet-Information-Server/5.0
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Type: text/html
Last-Modified: Thu, 18 Apr 1996 17:39:05 GMT
Set-Cookie: trackingID=3272923427328234
Set-Cookie: userID=F3D947C2
Content-Length: 2543
```

- <html>Some data... whatever ... </html>

- **Sending cookie with each request**

```
GET /index.html HTTP/1.1
```

```
Accept: image/gif, image/x-bitmap, image/jpeg, */*
Accept-Language: en
Connection: Keep-Alive
User-Agent: Mozilla/1.22 (compatible; MSIE 2.0; Windows 95)
Cookie: trackingID=3272923427328234
Cookie: userID=F3D947C2
Host: www.example.com
Referer: http://www.google.com?q=dingbats
```

### **Basic browser execution model**

- Loads content → parse HTML & runs JS → fetch sub resources (imgs, CSS, ... ) → respond to events like onClick, onMouseover, etc.
- Nested execution model
  - Windows may contain frames from different sources
  - Frames provide **isolation**
- DOM (document object model)
  - JS uses DOM to manipulate objects or items in HTML

### **Attacker Models**

- Network attacker
- Web attacker
- Gadget attacker
  - Web attacker with capabilities to inject limited content into honest page

### **Web security**

- Safely browse the web in the presence of web attackers
- Pages share the same cookies/HTML5 local storage

## Same Origin Policy

- Origin: isolation unit/trust boundary on the web (**scheme, domain, port**)
- SOP goal: isolate content of different origins
  - Script contained in **evil site** should not be able to read data in **bank.ch page**
  - Script from the **evil site** should not be able to modify the content of bank.ch
- SOP for DOM
  - Each frame has its own origin
  - Frame can only access data with the **same origin**
  - Communication between frames
    - Postmessage API
- SOP for HTTP responses
  - SOP prevents code from **directly** inspecting HTTP responses
  - **Documents**
    - Can load cross-origin HTML in frames, but not inspect or modify frame content
  - **Scripts**
    - Can load scripts from across origins
    - Scripts execute with the **same** privilege of the page
    - Page can see source thru `func.toString()`
  - **Images (similar for fonts & CSS)**
    - Browser renders cross-origin images
    - SOP prevents page from inspecting individual pixels though
    - Page can **only** see img.width
  - **Cookies**
    - Cookies use a separate definition of origins
    - DOM SOP: origin is (**scheme, domain, port**)
    - Cookie SOP: origin is (**scheme, domain, path**)
    - Browser will make a cookie available to the **given domain + sub-domains**

**Cookie 1:**  
name = mycookie  
value = mycookievalue  
domain = login.site.com  
path = /

**Cookie 2:**  
name = cookie2  
value = mycookievalue  
domain = site.com  
path = /

**Cookie 3:**  
name = cookie3  
value = mycookievalue  
domain = site.com  
path = /my/home

|                                        | Cookie 1 | Cookie 2 | Cookie 3 |
|----------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| <a href="#">checkout.site.com</a>      | No       | Yes      | No       |
| <a href="#">login.site.com</a>         | Yes      | Yes      | No       |
| <a href="#">login.site.com/my/home</a> | Yes      | Yes      | Yes      |
| <a href="#">site.com/my</a>            | No       | Yes      | No       |

- Cross-site request forgery attack (CSRF)
- Same Site cookies: sent **only when request is from the same site (top-level domain)**
- **Cookies are always sent**
  - Network attacker can steal cookies if server allows unencrypted HTTP traffic
  - Web attackers **DO NOT** need to wait for users to go to the site. Can make cross-origin requests
- Secure cookies: **sent only with an encrypted request**
- Finer grained isolation?
  - **NO.** cookies SOP does not allow domains to access the cookies of other domains of the same level, but DOM SOP does allow so
- **SOP does not prevent leaking data (document.cookie)**
- HTTPOnly cookies
  - Do not expose cookie in document.cookie  
Set-Cookie: id=a3fWa; Expires=Wed, 21 Oct 2015 07:28:00 GMT; **HttpOnly**;

## Slide 8

### Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

- HTTP methods related:
  - **GET**: retrieving data
  - **POST**: submit an entity, cause a change in state or side effects on the server
- Process
  - GET: use attacker's domain to interact with bank's URL, with user's own cookie
  - Attacker cannot see the result of GET but money all gone
  - POST: submit transfer form from attacker's site with user's cookie
- Defenses
  - Ensure that **POST is authentic (coming from a trusted page)**
  - **Secret Token validation**
    - Includes a secret value in every form submitted so that server can validate if the form is coming from a trusted page
    - Note that static token does not provide protection
    - **Use session-dependent identifier or token so attacker cannot retrieve due to SOP (attacker site and trusted site have different ORIGIN)**
  - **Referer or Origin validation**

- Referrer request header includes URL of the previous web page from which a link to the currently requested page
- Referrer header sends the full URL

https://bank.com      ->      https://bank.com      ✓

https://attacker.com      ->      https://bank.com      ✗

- **SameSite cookies**

- Strict: never send cookie in any cross-site browsing context
- Lax: allowed when following a navigation link but blocks it in CSRF-prone request methods
- None: send cookies from any context

## Injection

- **Command injection**

- Execute arbitrary command on the system
- Pass unsafe data into a shell

**Source:**

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    char *cmd = malloc(strlen(argv[1]) + 100)
    strcpy(cmd, "head -n 100 ")
    strcat(cmd, argv[1])
    system(cmd);
}
```

**Normal Input:**

```
./head10 myfile.txt -> system("head -n 100 myfile.txt")
```

**Adversarial Input:**

```
./head10 "myfile.txt; rm -rf /home"
-> system("head -n 100 myfile.txt; rm -rf /home")
```

- **Code injection**

- Most high-level languages have safe ways of calling out to a shell, *eval* (don't use it)

**Incorrect:**

```
var preTax = eval(req.body.preTax);
var afterTax = eval(req.body.afterTax);
var roth = eval(req.body.roth);
```

**Correct:**

```
var preTax = parseInt(req.body.preTax);
var afterTax = parseInt(req.body.afterTax);
var roth = parseInt(req.body.roth);
```

- **SQL Injection (SQLi)**
  - Take user input and add it into the SQL string
  - Could possibly drop some table in SQL
  - Prevention
    - Never build SQL commands by yourself
    - Use parameterized (AKA prepared) SQL instead (**allows to pass in query separately from arguments**)
    - ORMs (Object Relational Mappers) (**provides interface between native objects and relational databases**)

## Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

- When application takes untrusted data and sends it to a web browser without proper validation or sanitization



- Example

`https://google.com/search?q=<script>alert("hello world")</script>`

```
<html>
  <title>Search Results</title>
  <body>
    <h1>Results for <?php echo $_GET["q"] ?></h1>
  </body>
</html>
```

### **Sent to Browser**

```
<html>
  <title>Search Results</title>
  <body>
    <h1>Results for <script>alert("hello world")</script></h1>
  </body>
</html>
```

- **Reflected XSS:** script is reflected back to the user as part of a page from the victim site
- **Stored XSS:** stores the malicious code in a resource managed by the web app (DB)
- **Defense**
  - Old times: filtering malicious content (cons: really hard)

- **Content security policy (CSP)**

- Need to specify the domains that the browser should consider to be valid sources of executable scripts

- Examples

- Content can only be loaded from the same domain, no inline script

`Content-Security-Policy: default-src 'self'`

- Allow images from any origin

- Restrict audio or video media to trusted providers

- Only allow scripts from a specific server that hosts the trusted code, no inline scripts

`Content-Security-Policy: default-src 'self'; img-src *; media-src media1.com; script-src userscripts.example.com`

- Set up in **HTTP header, meta HTML object**

- **Trusted types**

- Only allow values that have been **sanitized or filtered (type TrustedHTML)**

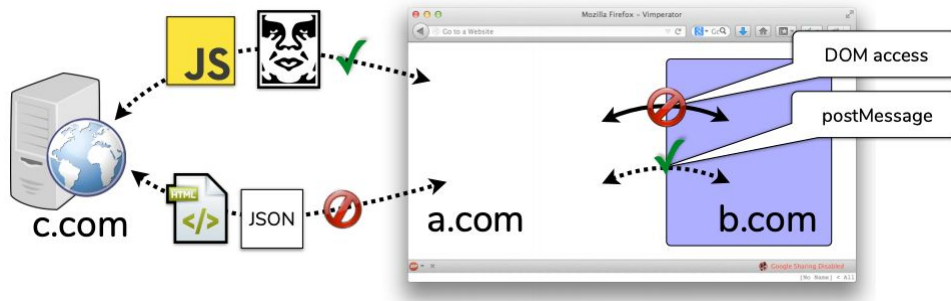
### Using Untrusted or Vulnerable components

- SOP for Frames is a Lax (allowed when following a navigation link but blocks it in CSRF-prone request methods)

### Slide 9

### Recall: SOP

- Isolate content from different origins



- Not strict enough
  - Third-party libs run with the **same privilege of the page**
  - Code within page can arbitrarily leak data
  - Iframe isolation is limited
- Not flexible enough

- Cannot read cross-origin responses

## **Modern Mechanism**

### **- Iframe sandbox**

- Restrict actions iframe can perform
- Whitelisting privileges
  - allow-scripts:** allows JS + triggers (autofocus, autoplay, etc.)
  - allow-forms:** allow form submission
  - allow-pointer-lock:** allow fine-grained mouse moves
  - allow-popups:** allow iframe to create popups
  - allow-top-navigation:** allow breaking out of frame
  - allow-same-origin:** retain original origin
- Run content in iframe with least privilege
- Privilege separate page into multiple iframes

### **- CSP**

- Consider running library in sandboxed iframes (**desired guarantee: checker cannot leak password**)
- **Problem:** sandbox does not restrict exfiltration
- Restrict resource loading to a whitelist

### **- HTTP strict transport security (HSTS)**

- Attackers can force you to go to HTTP vs. HTTPS
- HSTS: never visit site over HTTP again

### **- Subresource integrity (SRI)**

- CSP + HSTS can be used to limit damages but cannot really defend against malicious code
- Idea: page author specifies hash of (sub)resource they are loading; browser checks integrity
- When check fails
  - 1. Browser reports violation and does not render or execute resource
  - 2. CSP directive with integrity-policy directive set to report (report but may render or execute)

### **- Cross-origin resource sharing (CORS)**



- **Recall: SOP is not flexible**
- Problem: cannot fetch cross-origin data
- Solution: cross-origin resource sharing (CORS)
  - Data provider explicitly whitelists origins that can inspect responses
  - Browser allows page to inspect response if its origin is listed in the header
- How it works
  - Browser send origin header with XHR request
  - Server can inspect origin header and respond with access-control-allow-origin header
  - CORS XHR may send cookies + custom headers

## **COWL**

- Provide means for associating security label with data
- Ensure code is confined to obey labels by associating labels with browsing contexts
- **Confining the checker with COWL**
  - Express sensitivity of data (checker only receive pw if its context label is as sensitive as the pw)
  - Use postMessage to send labeled pw (at time of sending source, specify the sensitivity of the data)