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WEB 330: discussion 8.1

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Professor Krasso

AJAX

AJAX, or Asynchronous JavaScript and XML, is a way to partially update a webpage without refreshing the site, view the data in the server after the page loads, and deliver data in the background. This helps the user experience flow and helps with the server load. AJAX is not a language, it is a way to access servers through a web page through the XMLHttoRequest object or JavaScript and HTML DOM.

AJAX poses some security threats. On the user end, script can be inserted to the users’ browsers and then be monitored. For developers, usually the more a developer will use AJAX, the more server-side pages will be created, leading to more opportunities for cyber-attacks. Because the data received is stored on the user’s computer, it becomes accessible to anyone. Because requests are in plain text it is easy to see database details and variable names. There are also traditional cyber attacks that can be carried out on AJAX based applications. “Although the CSRF is pretty much prevalent in traditional web applications, if prevention is not implemented, it also can be carried out on Ajax based web apps. The only difficulty is, since it’s a hidden request, it’s not that straight forward to create a valid request. We need to craft not only the compliant request but also we need to stick to the valid data format”( Ninj@S3c, 2013)

Information of the HTTP body and the request/response belong in the HTTP header. “Information about the body is related to the content of the Body such as the length of the content inside the body. The information about Request/Response is the general information about the request/response and it is not specific to the content of the body, example at what time the Request was made or the browser used to make the request” (Clean Tutorials, 2015).

Resources:

*What is AJAX*. (2019). W3schools.com. <https://www.w3schools.com/whatis/whatis_ajax.asp>

*What are the security issues with AJAX?* (n.d.). Www.careerride.com. Retrieved February 20, 2023, from <https://www.careerride.com/Ajax-security-issues.aspx>

*Ajax Security Issues*. (n.d.). Infosec Resources. Retrieved February 20, 2023, from <https://resources.infosecinstitute.com/topic/ajax-security-issues/>

*HTTP header and HTTP body format with examples.* (2015, November 13). Clean Tutorials. https://www.cleantutorials.com/html/format-of-http-request-response-header-and-body-with-example

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