OWASP Top 10 - 2010 rc1

The Top 10 Most Critical Web Application Security Risks

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What's Changed?

It's About Risks, Not Just Vulnerabilities

- New title is: "The Top 10 Most Critical Web Application Security Risks"

OWASP Top 10 Risk Rating Methodology

- Based on the OWASP Risk Rating Methodology, used to prioritize Top 10

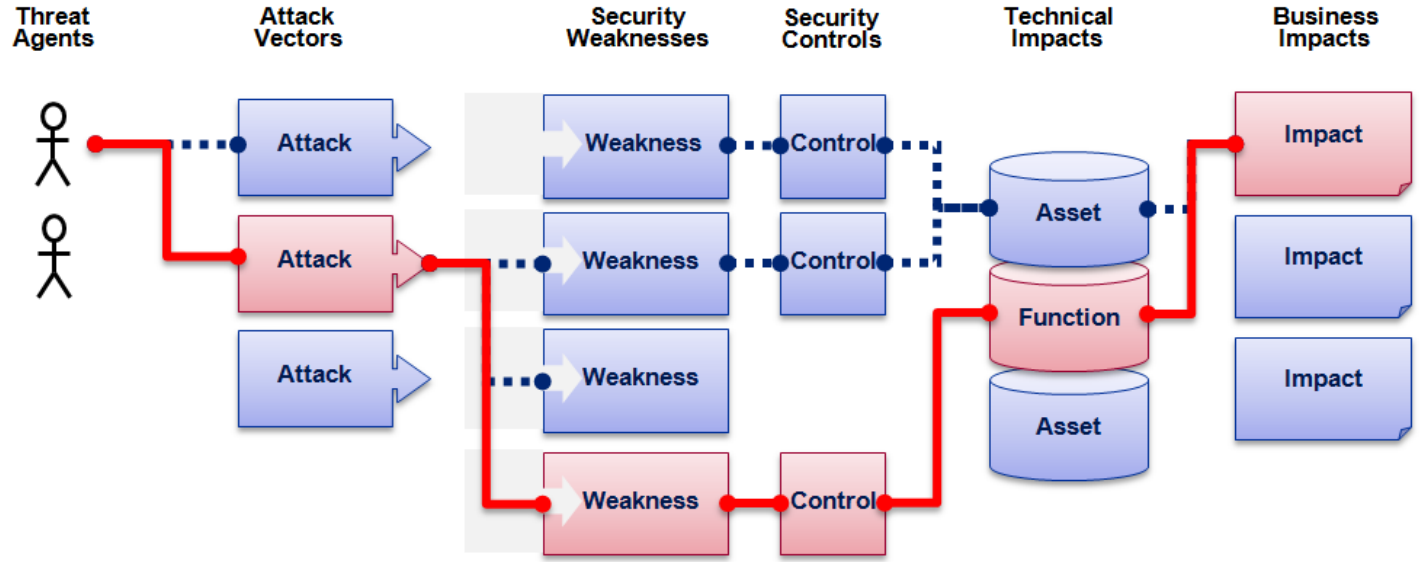
2 Risks Added, 2 Dropped

- **Added: A6 – Security Misconfiguration**
  - Was A10 in 2004 Top 10: Insecure Configuration Management
- **Added: A8 – Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards**
  - Relatively common and VERY dangerous flaw that is not well known
- **Removed: A3 – Malicious File Execution**
  - Primarily a PHP flaw that is dropping in prevalence
- **Removed: A6 – Information Leakage and Improper Error Handling**
  - A very prevalent flaw, that does not introduce much risk (normally)

Mapping from 2007 to 2010 Top 10

OWASP Top 10 – 2007 (Previous)		OWASP Top 10 – 2010 (New)
A2 – Injection Flaws	↑	A1 – Injection
A1 – Cross Site Scripting (XSS)	↓	A2 – Cross Site Scripting (XSS)
A7 – Broken Authentication and Session Management	↑	A3 – Broken Authentication and Session Management
A4 – Insecure Direct Object Reference	=	A4 – Insecure Direct Object References
A5 – Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)	=	A5 – Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)
<was T10 2004 A10 – Insecure Configuration Management>	+	A6 – Security Misconfiguration (NEW)
A10 – Failure to Restrict URL Access	↑	A7 – Failure to Restrict URL Access
<not in T10 2007>	+	A8 – Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards (NEW)
A8 – Insecure Cryptographic Storage	↓	A9 – Insecure Cryptographic Storage
A9 – Insecure Communications	↓	A10 – Insufficient Transport Layer Protection
A3 – Malicious File Execution	-	<dropped from T10 2010>
A6 – Information Leakage and Improper Error Handling	-	<dropped from T10 2010>

OWASP Top 10 Risk Rating Methodology

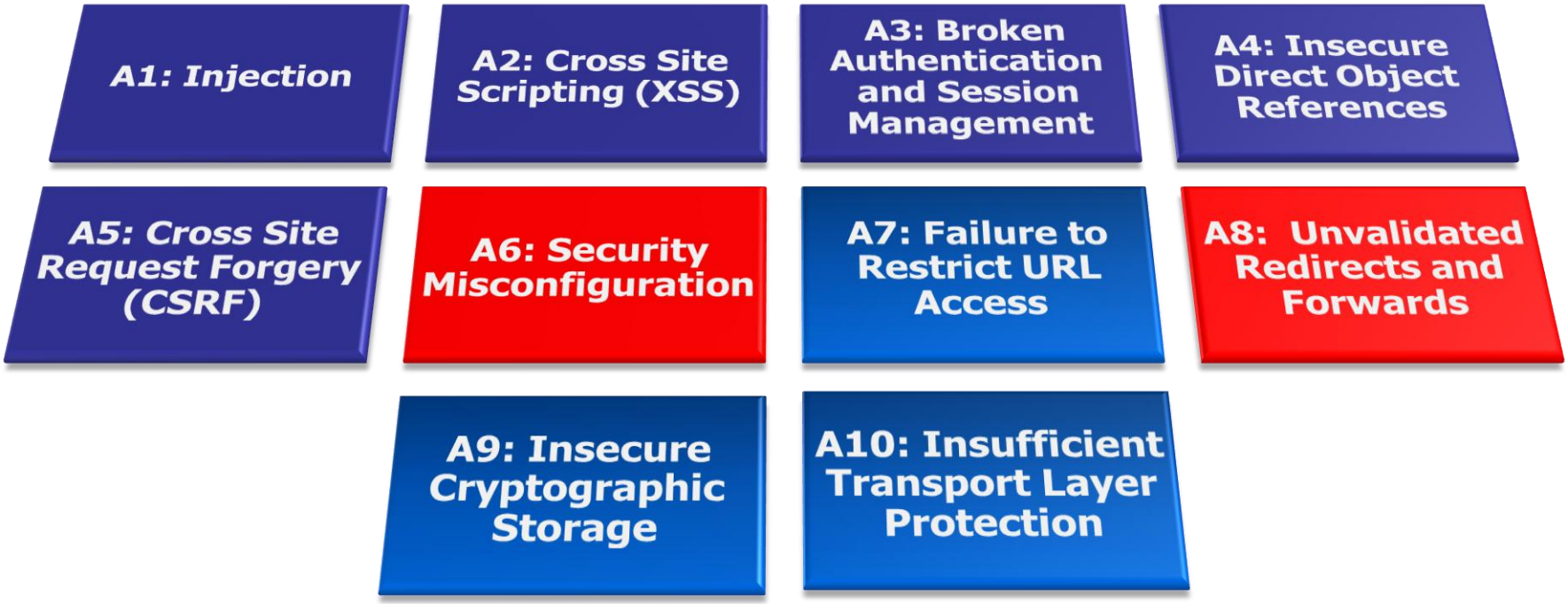


Threat Agent	Attack Vector	Weakness Prevalence	Weakness Detectability	Technical Impact	Business Impact
	1 Easy	Widespread	Easy	Severe	
?	2 Average	Common	Average	Moderate	?
	3 Difficult	Uncommon	Difficult	Minor	
	2	1	1	2	
		1.3	*	2	

XSS Example

2.6 weighted risk rating

The 'new' OWASP Top Ten (2010 rc1)



OWASP
The Open Web Application Security Project
http://www.owasp.org

http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Top_10

A1 – Injection

Injection means…

- Tricking an application into including unintended commands in the data sent to an interpreter

Interpreters…

- Take strings and interpret them as commands
- SQL, OS Shell, LDAP, XPath, Hibernate, etc…

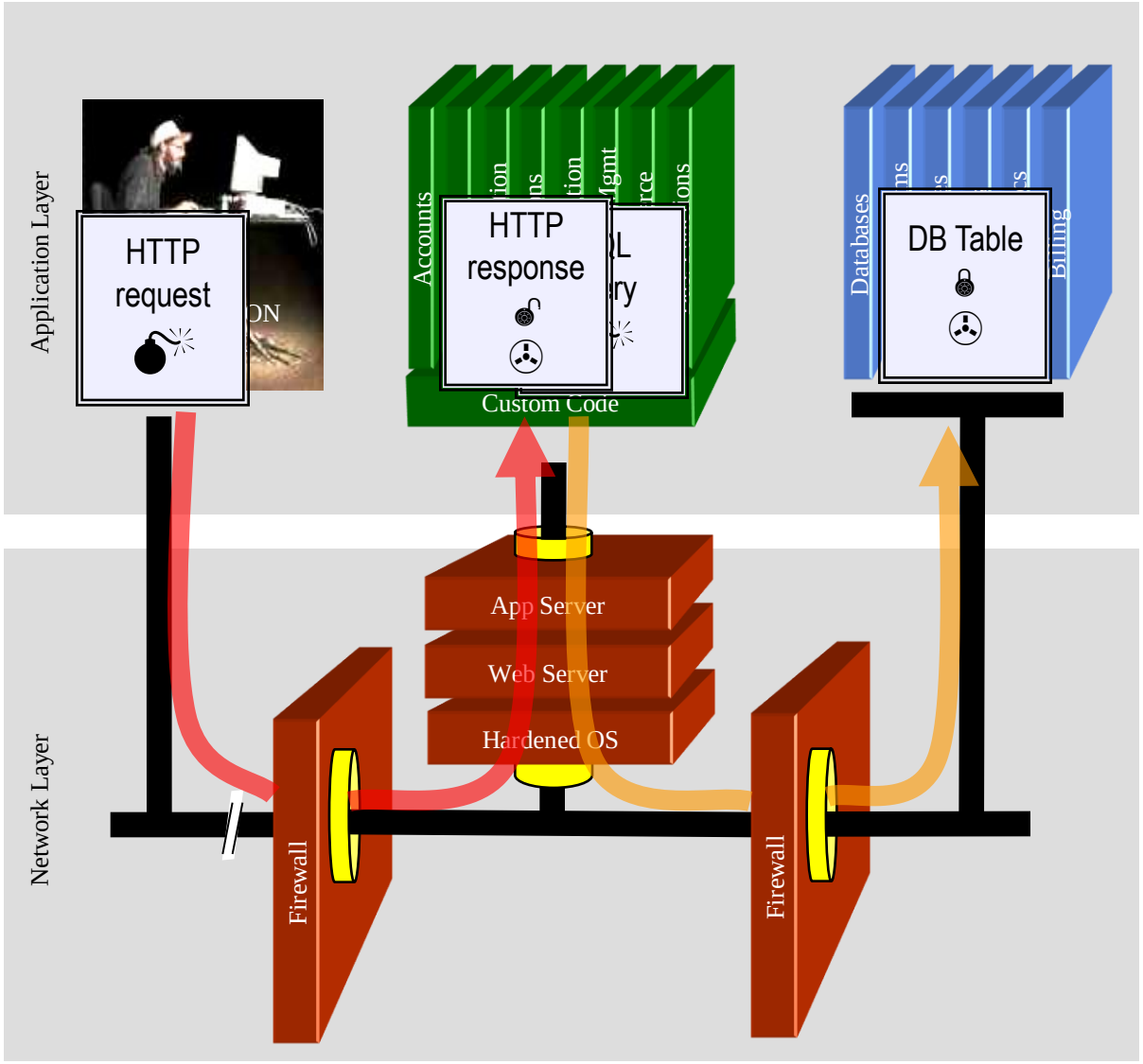
SQL injection is still quite common

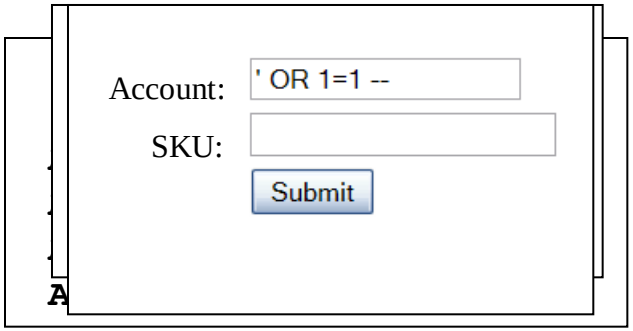
- Many applications still susceptible (really don't know why)
- Even though it's usually very simple to avoid

Typical Impact

- Usually severe. Entire database can usually be read or modified
- May also allow full database schema, or account access, or even OS level access

SQL Injection – Illustrated





1. Application presents a form to the attacker
2. Attacker sends an attack in the form data
3. Application forwards attack to the database in a SQL query
4. Database runs query containing attack and sends encrypted results back to application
5. Application decrypts data as normal and sends results to the user

A1 – Avoid Injection Flaws

- Recommendations
  1. Avoid the interpreter entirely, or
  2. Use an interface that supports bind variables (e.g., prepared statements, or stored procedures),
     - Bind variables allow the interpreter to distinguish between code and data
  3. Encode all user input before passing it to the interpreter
  - Always perform 'white list' input validation on all user supplied input
  - Always minimize database privileges to reduce the impact of a flaw
- References
  - For more details, read the new http://www.owasp.org/index.php/SQL_Injection_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet

A2 – Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

Occurs any time…

- Raw data from attacker is sent to an innocent user's browser

Raw data…

- Stored in database
- Reflected from web input (form field, hidden field, URL, etc…)
- Sent directly into rich JavaScript client

Virtually every web application has this problem

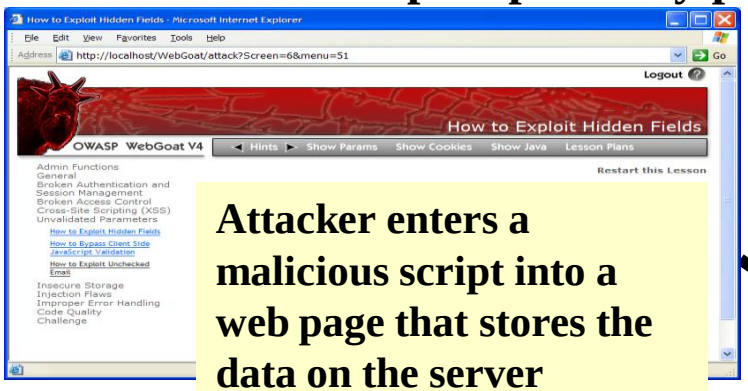
- Try this in your browser – javascript:alert(document.cookie)

Typical Impact

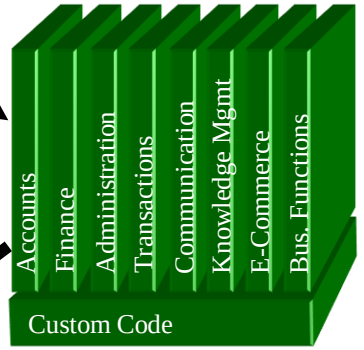
- Steal user's session, steal sensitive data, rewrite web page, redirect user to phishing or malware site
- Most Severe: Install XSS proxy which allows attacker to observe and direct all user's behavior on vulnerable site and force user to other sites

Cross-Site Scripting Illustrated

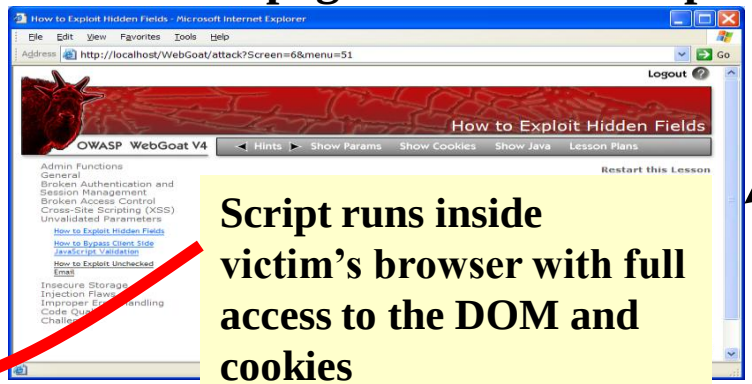
1 Attacker sets the trap – update my profile



Application with stored XSS vulnerability



2 Victim views page – sees attacker profile



3 Script silently sends attacker Victim's session cookie

A2 – Avoiding XSS Flaws

- Recommendations
  - Eliminate Flaw
    - Don't include user supplied input in the output page
  - Defend Against the Flaw
    - Primary Recommendation: Output encode all user supplied input

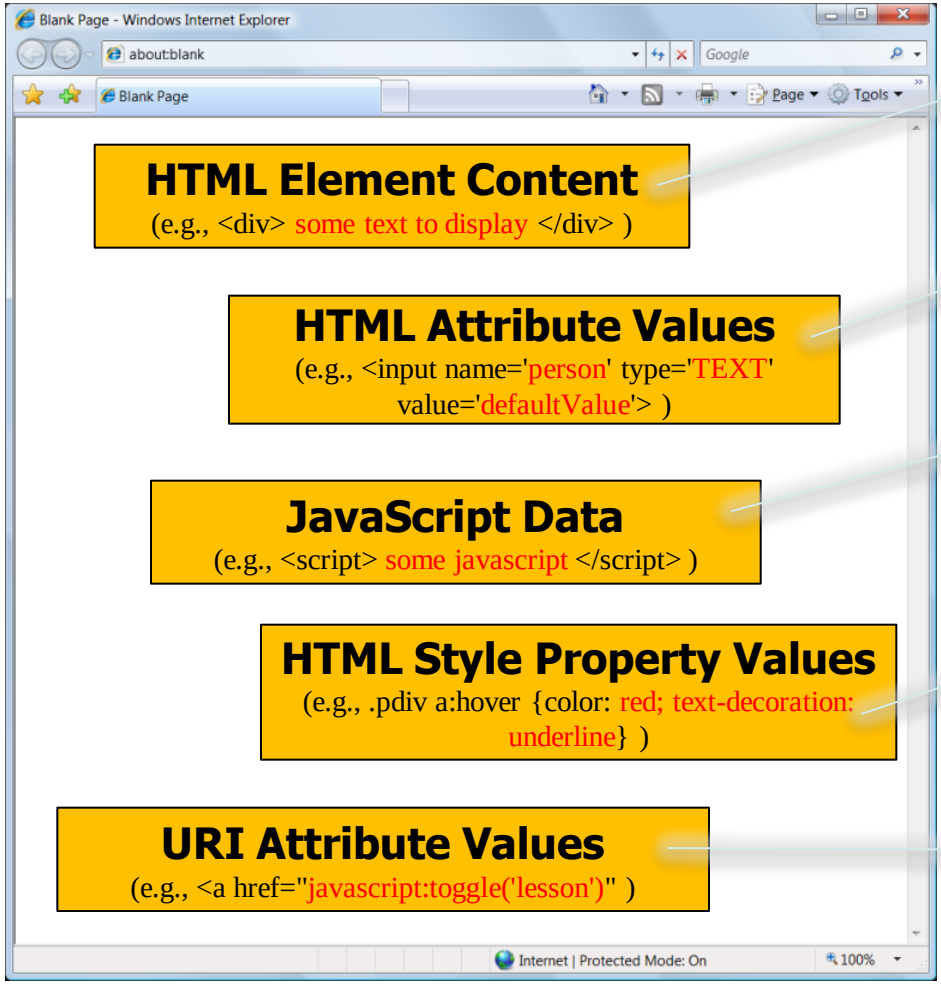
      (Use OWASP's ESAPI to output encode:

      http://www.owasp.org/index.php/ESAPI
    - Perform 'white list' input validation on all user input to be included in page
    - For large chunks of user supplied HTML, use OWASP's AntiSamy to sanitize this HTML to make it safe

      See: http://www.owasp.org/index.php/AntiSamy

(AntiSamy)

Safe Escaping Schemes in Various HTML Execution Contexts



#1: (&, <, >, ") → &entity; (', /) → &#xHH;
ESAPI: encodeForHTML()

#2: All non-alphanumeric < 256 → &#xHH
ESAPI: encodeForHTMLAttribute()

#3: All non-alphanumeric < 256 → \xHH
ESAPI: encodeForJavaScript()

#4: All non-alphanumeric < 256 → \HH
ESAPI: encodeForCSS()

#5: All non-alphanumeric < 256 → %HH
ESAPI: encodeForURL()

ALL other contexts CANNOT include Untrusted Data

Recommendation: Only allow #1 and #2 and disallow all others

See: www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS_(Cross_Site_Scripting)_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet for more details

A3 – Broken Authentication and Session Management

HTTP is a "stateless" protocol

- Means credentials have to go with every request
- Should use SSL for everything requiring authentication

Session management flaws

- SESSION ID used to track state since HTTP doesn't
  - and it is just as good as credentials to an attacker
- SESSION ID is typically exposed on the network, in browser, in logs, …

Beware the side-doors

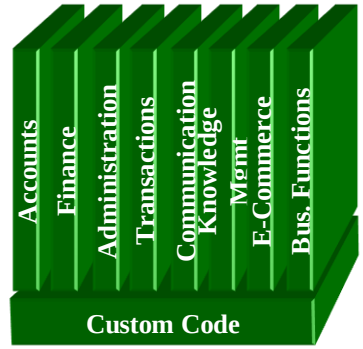
- Change my password, remember my password, forgot my password, secret question, logout, email address, etc…

Typical Impact

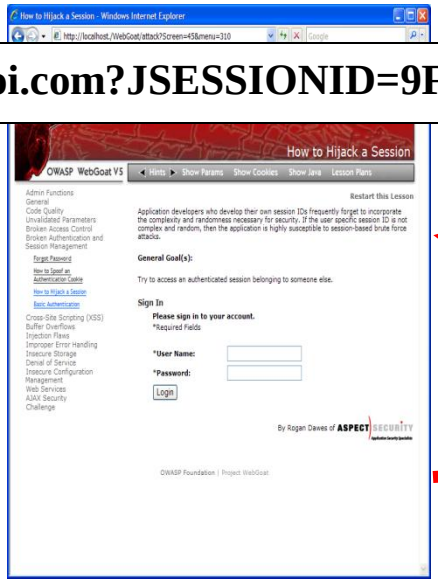
- User accounts compromised or user sessions hijacked

Broken Authentication Illustrated

1 User sends credentials



www.boi.com?JSESSIONID=9FA1DB9EA...



Site uses URL rewriting
(i.e., put session in URL)

2

3 User clicks on a link to http://www.hacker.com in a forum

Hacker checks referer logs on www.hacker.com and finds user's JSESSIONID

4

5 Hacker uses JSESSIONID and takes over victim's account

A3 – Avoiding Broken Authentication and Session Management

- Verify your architecture
  - Authentication should be simple, centralized, and standardized
  - Use the standard session id provided by your container
  - Be sure SSL protects both credentials and session id at all times

- Verify the implementation
  - Forget automated analysis approaches
  - Check your SSL certificate
  - Examine all the authentication-related functions
  - Verify that logoff actually destroys the session
  - Use OWASP's WebScarab to test the implementation

A4 – Insecure Direct Object References

How do you protect access to your data?

- This is part of enforcing proper "Authorization", along with A7 – Failure to Restrict URL Access

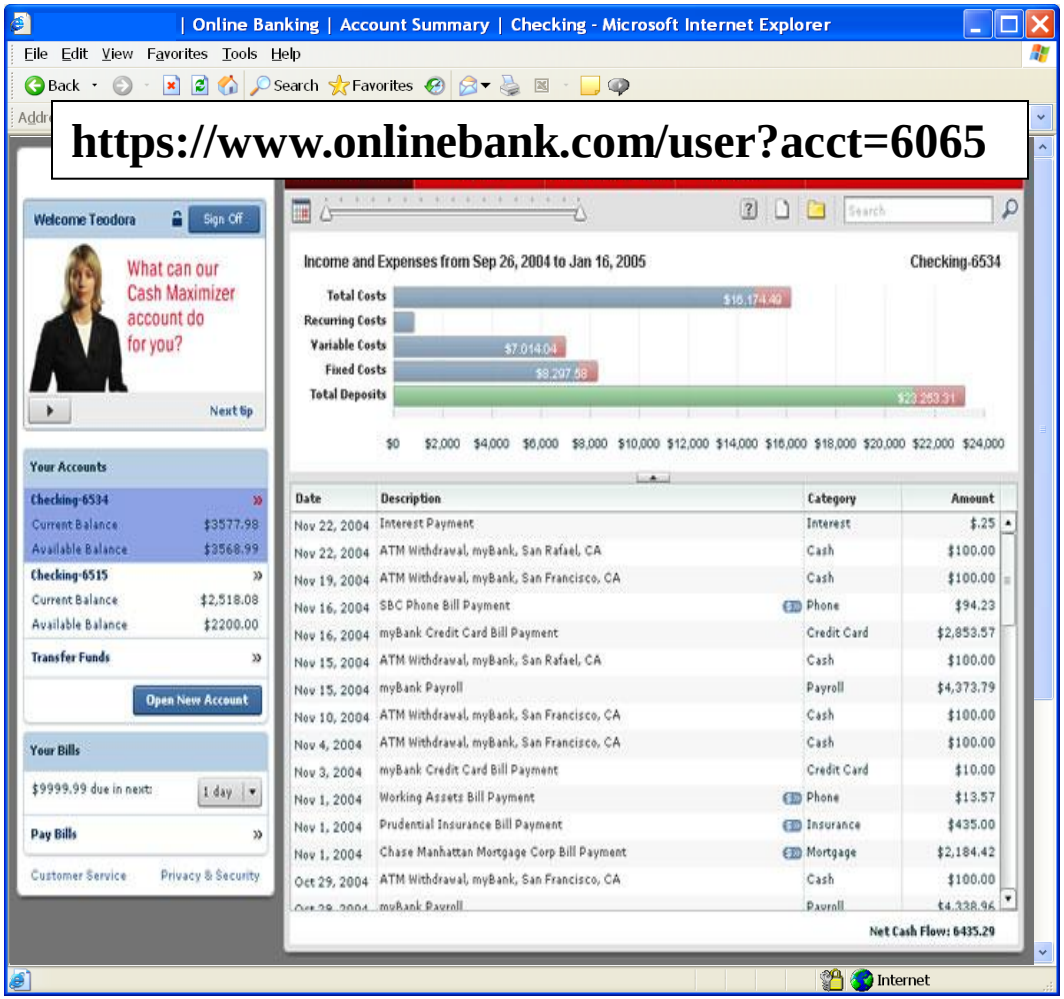
A common mistake …

- Only listing the 'authorized' objects for the current user, or
- Hiding the object references in hidden fields
- … and then not enforcing these restrictions on the server side
- This is called presentation layer access control, and doesn't work
- Attacker simply tampers with parameter value

Typical Impact

- Users are able to access unauthorized files or data

Insecure Direct Object References Illustrated



- Attacker notices his acct parameter is 6065

  ?acct=6065

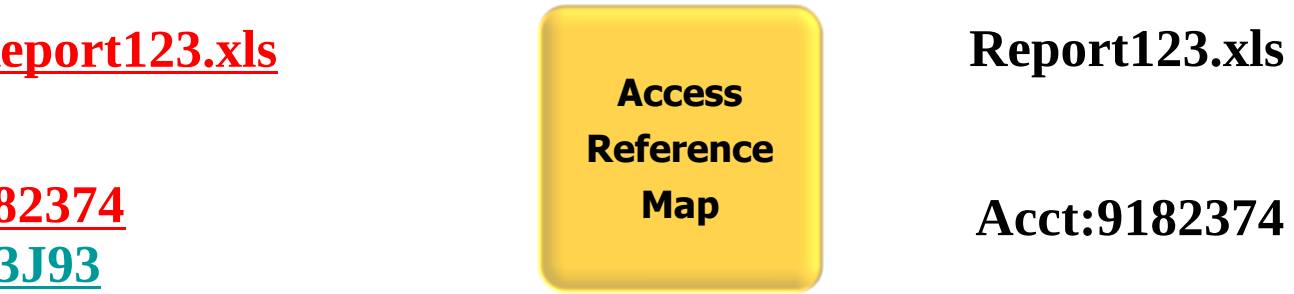
- He modifies it to a nearby number

  ?acct=6066

- Attacker views the victim's account information

A4 – Avoiding Insecure Direct Object References

- Eliminate the direct object reference
  - Replace them with a temporary mapping value (e.g. 1, 2, 3)
  - ESAPI provides support for numeric & random mappings
    - IntegerAccessReferenceMap & RandomAccessReferenceMap



- Validate the direct object reference
  - Verify the parameter value is properly formatted
  - Verify the user is allowed to access the target object
    - Query constraints work great!
  - Verify the requested mode of access is allowed to the target object (e.g., read, write, delete)

A5 – Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

Cross Site Request Forgery

- An attack where the victim's browser is tricked into issuing a command to a vulnerable web application
- Vulnerability is caused by browsers automatically including user authentication data (session ID, IP address, Windows domain credentials, …) with each request

Imagine…

- What if a hacker could steer your mouse and get you to click on links in your online banking application?
- What could they make you do?

Typical Impact

- Initiate transactions (transfer funds, logout user, close account)
- Access sensitive data
- Change account details

CSRF Vulnerability Pattern

- The Problem
  - Web browsers automatically include most credentials with each request
  - Even for requests caused by a form, script, or image on another site
- All sites relying solely on automatic credentials are vulnerable!
  - (almost all sites are this way)
- Automatically Provided Credentials
  - Session cookie
  - Basic authentication header
  - IP address
  - Client side SSL certificates
  - Windows domain authentication

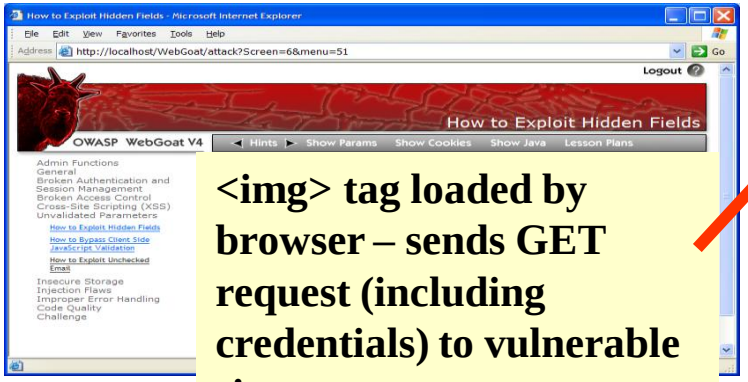
CSRF Illustrated

1

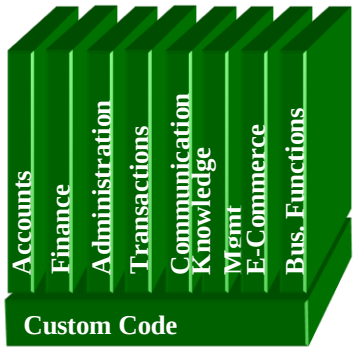
Attacker sets the trap on some website on the internet (or simply via an e-mail)

2

While logged into vulnerable site, victim views attacker site



Application with CSRF vulnerability



3

Vulnerable site sees legitimate request from victim and performs the action requested

A5 – Avoiding CSRF Flaws

- Add a secret, not automatically submitted, token to ALL sensitive requests
  - This makes it impossible for the attacker to spoof the request
    - (unless there's an XSS hole in your application)
  - Tokens should be cryptographically strong or random
- Options
  - Store a single token in the session and add it to all forms and links
    - **Hidden Field:** `<input name="token" value="687965fdfaew87agrde" type="hidden"/>`
    - **Single use URL:** `/accounts/687965fdfaew87agrde`
    - **Form Token:** `/accounts?auth=687965fdfaew87agrde ...`
  - Beware exposing the token in a referer header
    - Hidden fields are recommended
  - Can have a unique token for each function
    - Use a hash of function name, session id, and a secret
  - Can require secondary authentication for sensitive functions (e.g., eTrade)
- Don't allow attackers to store attacks on your site
  - Properly encode all input on the way out
  - This renders all links/requests inert in most interpreters

See the new: www.owasp.org/index.php/CSRF_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet for more details

A6 – Security Misconfiguration

Web applications rely on a secure foundation

- All through the network and platform
- Don't forget the development environment

Is your source code a secret?

- Think of all the places your source code goes
- Security should not require secret source code

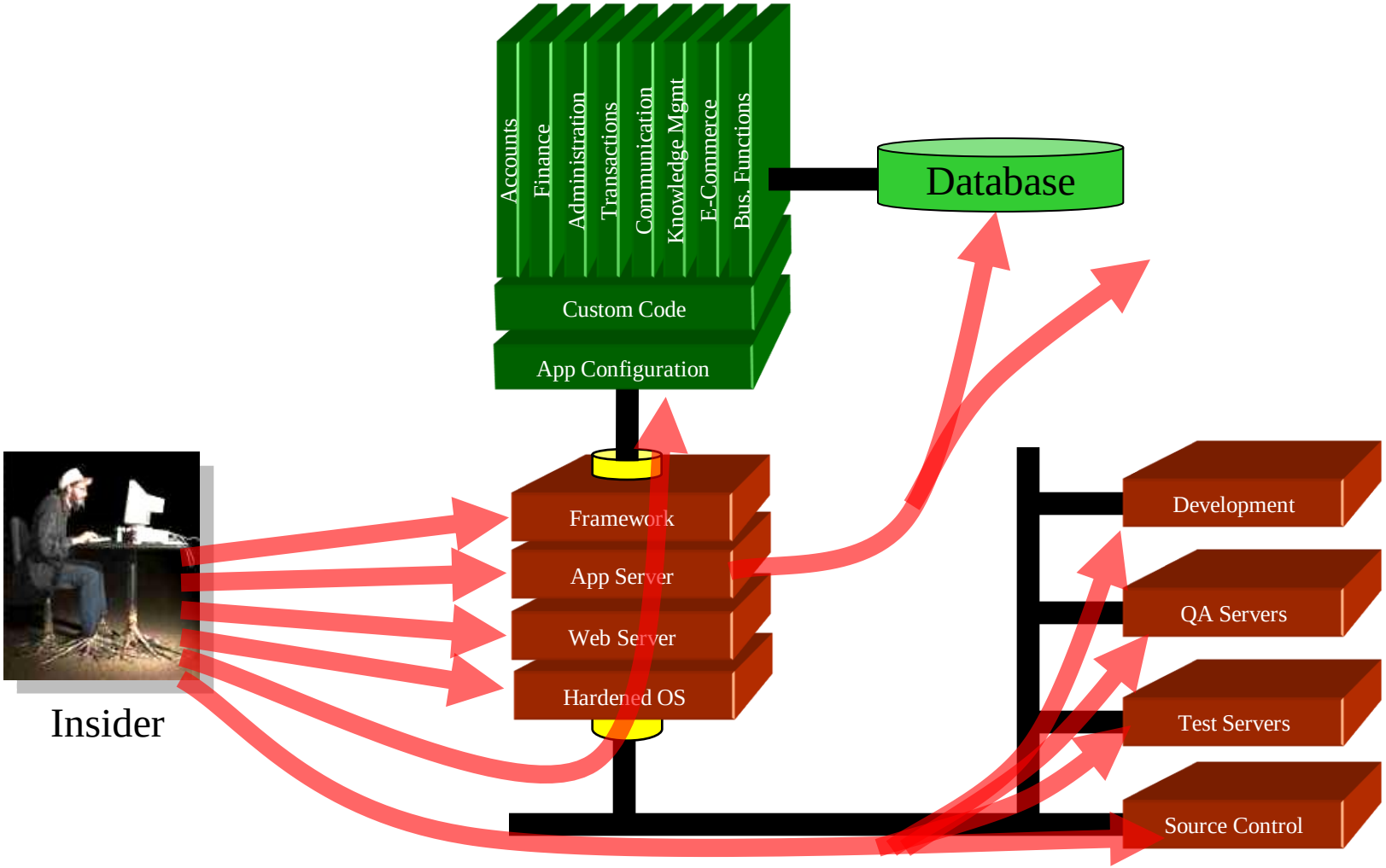
CM must extend to all parts of the application

- All credentials should change in production

Typical Impact

- Install backdoor through missing network or server patch
- XSS flaw exploits due to missing application framework patches
- Unauthorized access to default accounts, application functionality or data, or unused but accessible functionality due to poor server configuration

Security Misconfiguration Illustrated



A6 – Avoiding Security Misconfiguration

- Verify your system's configuration management
  - Secure configuration "hardening" guideline
    - Automation is REALLY USEFUL here
  - Must cover entire platform and application
  - Keep up with patches for ALL components
    - This includes software libraries, not just OS and Server applications
  - Analyze security effects of changes
- Can you "dump" the application configuration
  - Build reporting into your process
  - If you can't verify it, it isn't secure
- Verify the implementation
  - Scanning finds generic configuration and missing patch problems

A7 – Failure to Restrict URL Access

How do you protect access to URLs (pages)?

- This is part of enforcing proper "authorization", along with A4 – Insecure Direct Object References

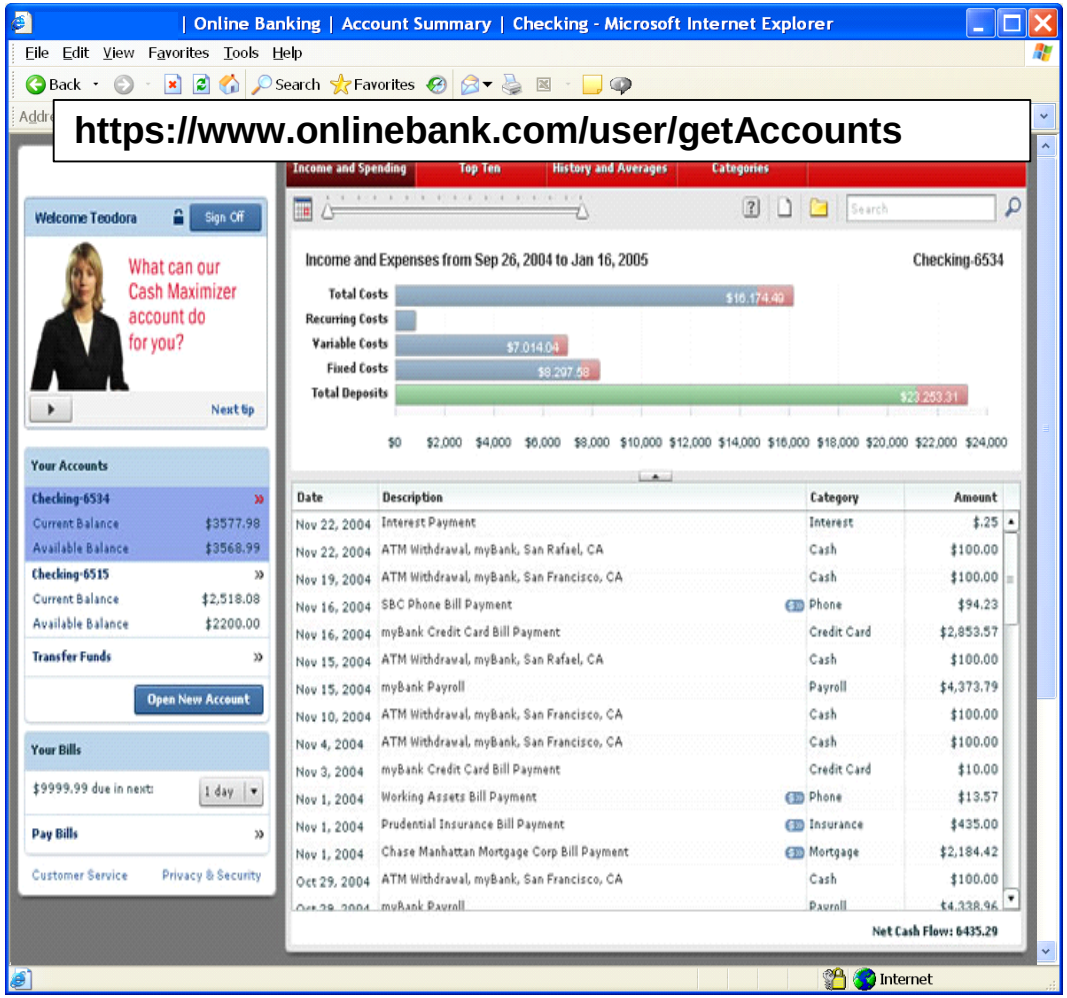
A common mistake …

- Displaying only authorized links and menu choices
- This is called presentation layer access control, and doesn't work
- Attacker simply forges direct access to 'unauthorized' pages

Typical Impact

- Attackers invoke functions and services they're not authorized for
- Access other user's accounts and data
- Perform privileged actions

Failure to Restrict URL Access Illustrated



- Attacker notices the URL indicates his role
  /user/getAccounts
- He modifies it to another directory (role)
  /admin/getAccounts, or
  /manager/getAccounts
- Attacker views more accounts than just their own

A7 – Avoiding URL Access Control Flaws

- For each URL, a site needs to do 3 things
  - Restrict access to authenticated users (if not public)
  - Enforce any user or role based permissions (if private)
  - Completely disallow requests to unauthorized page types (e.g., config files, log files, source files, etc.)
- Verify your architecture
  - Use a simple, positive model at every layer
  - Be sure you actually have a mechanism at every layer
- Verify the implementation
  - Forget automated analysis approaches
  - Verify that each URL in your application is protected by either
    - An external filter, like Java EE web.xml or a commercial product
    - Or internal checks in YOUR code – Use ESAPI's isAuthorizedForURL() method
  - Verify the server configuration disallows requests to unauthorized file types
  - Use WebScarab or your browser to forge unauthorized requests

A8 – Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards

Web application redirects are very common

- And frequently include user supplied parameters in the destination URL
- If they aren't validated, attacker can send victim to a site of their choice

Forwards (aka Transfer in .NET) are common too

- They internally send the request to a new page in the same application
- Sometimes parameters define the target page
- If not validated, attacker may be able to use unvalidated forward to bypass authentication or authorization checks

Typical Impact

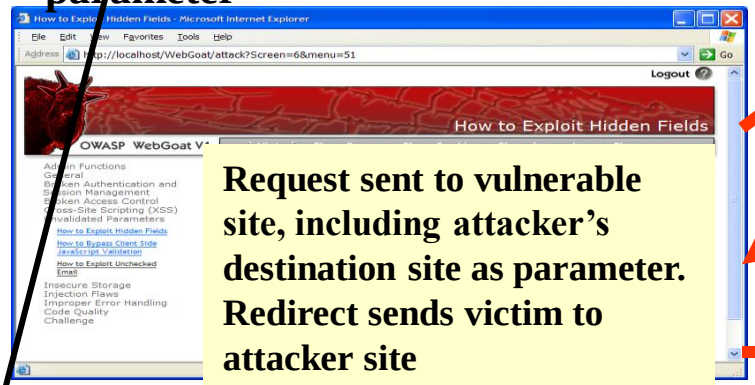
- Redirect victim to phishing or malware site
- Attacker's request is forwarded past security checks, allowing unauthorized function or data access

Unvalidated Redirect Illustrated

1 Attacker sends attack to victim via email or webpage

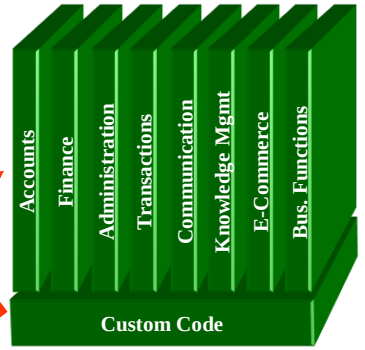
From: Internal Revenue Service
Subject: Your Unclaimed Tax Refund
Our records show you have an unclaimed federal tax refund. Please click here to initiate your claim.

2 Victim clicks link containing unvalidated parameter



Request sent to vulnerable site, including attacker's destination site as parameter. Redirect sends victim to attacker site

3 Application redirects victim to attacker's site

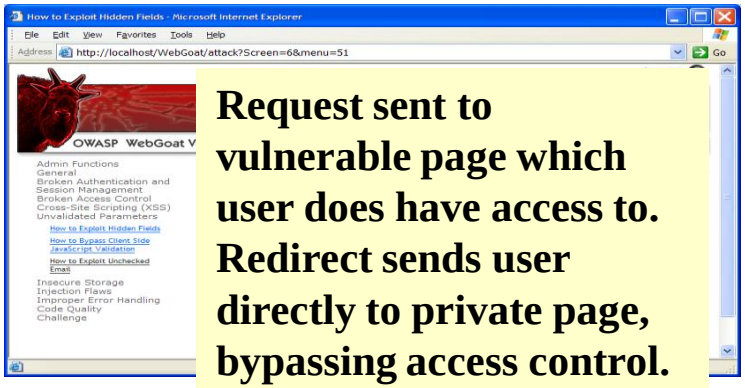


4 Evil site installs malware on victim, or phish's for private information

http://www.irs.gov/taxrefund/claim.jsp?year=2006&...&dest=www.evilsite.com

Unvalidated Forward Illustrated

1 **Attacker sends attack to vulnerable page they have access to**



Request sent to vulnerable page which user does have access to. Redirect sends user directly to private page, bypassing access control.

2 **Application authorizes request, which continues to vulnerable page**

Filter

```
public void doPost( HttpServletRequest request,
HttpServletResponse response) {
    try {
        String target = request.getParameter( "dest" ) );
        ...
        request.getRequestDispatcher( target
        ).forward(request, response);
    }
    catch ( ...
```

```
public void sensitiveMethod(
HttpServletRequest request,
HttpServletResponse response) {
    try {
          // Do sensitive stuff here.
          ...
    }
    catch ( ...
```

3 **Forwarding page fails to validate parameter, sending attacker to unauthorized page, bypassing access control**

A8 – Avoiding Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards

- There are a number of options
  1. Avoid using redirects and forwards as much as you can
  2. If used, don't involve user parameters in defining the target URL
  3. If you 'must' involve user parameters, then either
     a) Validate each parameter to ensure its valid and authorized for the current user, or
     b) (preferred) – Use server side mapping to translate choice provided to user with actual target page
  - Defense in depth: For redirects, validate the target URL after it is calculated to make sure it goes to an authorized external site
  - ESAPI can do this for you!!
    - See: SecurityWrapperResponse.sendRedirect(URL)
    - http://owasp-esapi-java.googlecode.com/svn/trunk_doc/org/owasp/esapi/filters/SecurityWrapperResponse.html#sendRedirect(java.lang.String)

- Some thoughts about protecting Forwards
  - Ideally, you'd call the access controller to make sure the user is authorized before you perform the forward (with ESAPI, this is easy)
  - With an external filter, like Siteminder, this is not very practical
  - Next best is to make sure that users who can access the original page are ALL authorized to access the target page.

A9 – Insecure Cryptographic Storage

Storing sensitive data insecurely

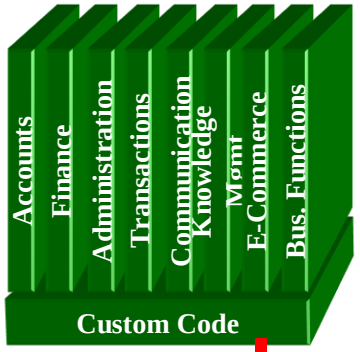
- Failure to identify all sensitive data
- Failure to identify all the places that this sensitive data gets stored
  - Databases, files, directories, log files, backups, etc.
- Failure to properly protect this data in every location

Typical Impact

- Attackers access or modify confidential or private information
  - e.g, credit cards, health care records, financial data (yours or your customers)
- Attackers extract secrets to use in additional attacks
- Company embarrassment, customer dissatisfaction, and loss of trust
- Expense of cleaning up the incident, such as forensics, sending apology letters, reissuing thousands of credit cards, providing identity theft insurance
- Business gets sued and/or fined

Insecure Cryptographic Storage Illustrated

1 Victim enters credit card number in form



2 Error handler logs CC details because merchant gateway is unavailable

3 Logs are accessible to all members of IT staff for debugging purposes

4 Malicious insider steals 4 million credit card numbers

A9 – Avoiding Insecure Cryptographic Storage

- Verify your architecture
  - Identify all sensitive data
  - Identify all the places that data is stored
  - Ensure threat model accounts for possible attacks
  - Use encryption to counter the threats, don't just 'encrypt' the data
- Protect with appropriate mechanisms
  - File encryption, database encryption, data element encryption
- Use the mechanisms correctly
  - Use standard strong algorithms
  - Generate, distribute, and protect keys properly
  - Be prepared for key change
- Verify the implementation
  - A standard strong algorithm is used, and it's the proper algorithm for this situation
  - All keys, certificates, and passwords are properly stored and protected
  - Safe key distribution and an effective plan for key change are in place
  - Analyze encryption code for common flaws

A10 – Insufficient Transport Layer Protection

Transmitting sensitive data insecurely

- Failure to identify all sensitive data
- Failure to identify all the places that this sensitive data is sent
  - On the web, to backend databases, to business partners, internal communications
- Failure to properly protect this data in every location

Typical Impact

- Attackers access or modify confidential or private information
  - e.g, credit cards, health care records, financial data (yours or your customers)
- Attackers extract secrets to use in additional attacks
- Company embarrassment, customer dissatisfaction, and loss of trust
- Expense of cleaning up the incident
- Business gets sued and/or fined

Insufficient Transport Layer Protection Illustrated

External Victim

Custom Code

Backend Systems

Business Partners

Employees

External Attacker

1

External attacker steals credentials and data off network

Internal Attacker

2

Internal attacker steals credentials and data from internal network

A10 – Avoiding Insufficient Transport Layer Protection

- Protect with appropriate mechanisms
  - Use TLS on all connections with sensitive data
  - Individually encrypt messages before transmission
    - E.g., XML-Encryption
  - Sign messages before transmission
    - E.g., XML-Signature
- Use the mechanisms correctly
  - Use standard strong algorithms (disable old SSL algorithms)
  - Manage keys/certificates properly
  - Verify SSL certificates before using them
  - Use proven mechanisms when sufficient
    - E.g., SSL vs. XML-Encryption
- See: http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Transport_Layer_Protection_Cheat_Sheet for more details

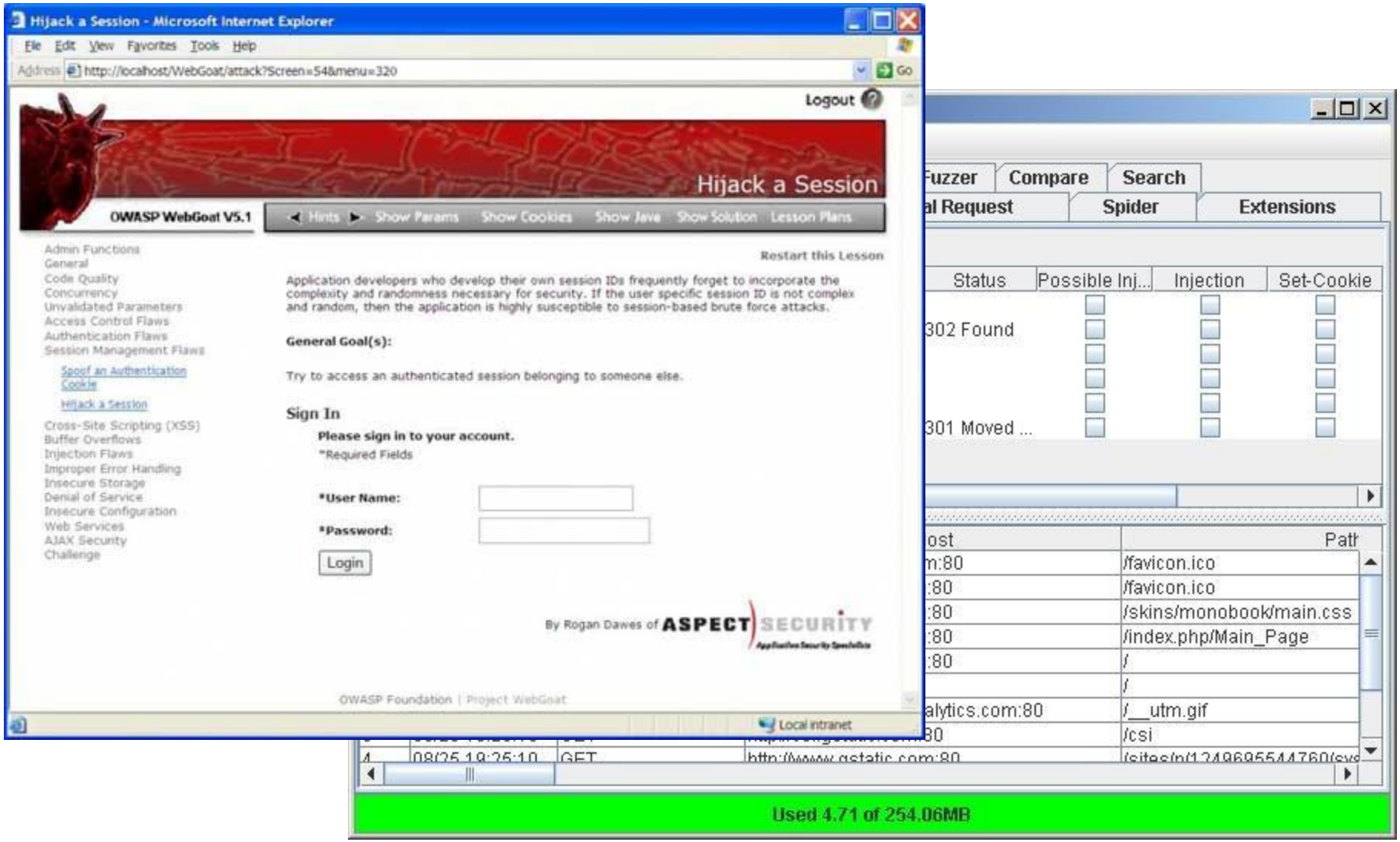
A Phased Approach to Application Security

1. Raise awareness about these issues in your development teams.
   - Top 10/WebScarab/Webgoat Training

2. Provide development teams with tools/documentation.
   - OWASP ESAPI
   - OWASP Dev & Code Review Guides

3. Create an independent application security expert team
   - OWASP ASVS
   - OWASP Testing Guide

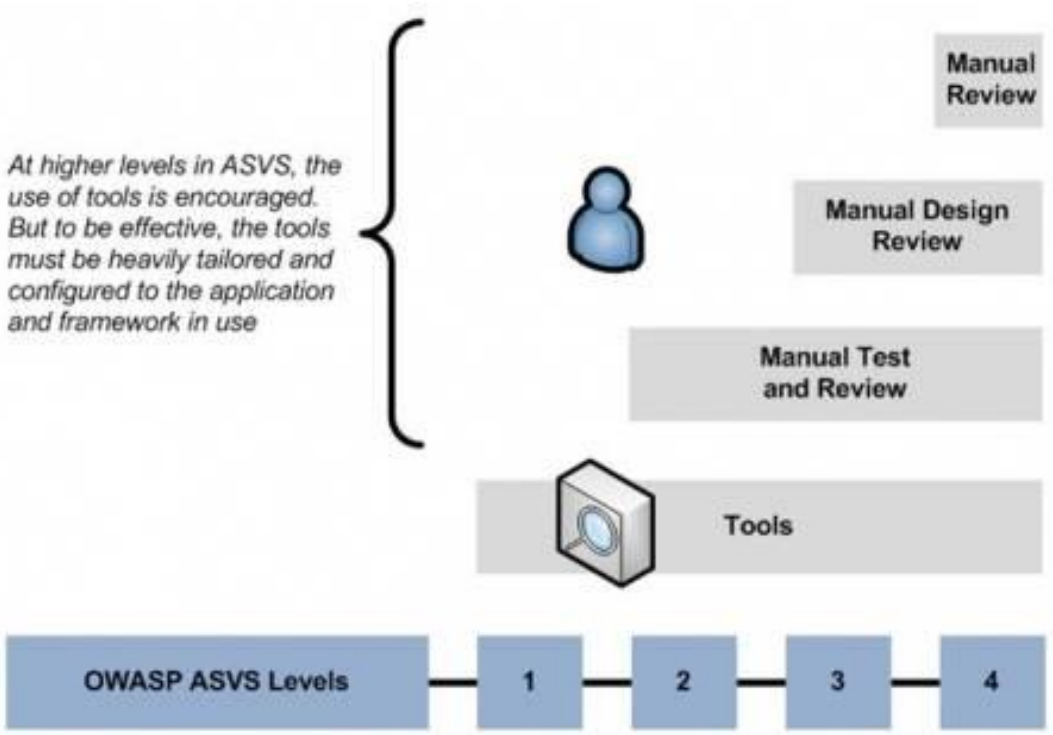
OWASP WebGoat & WebScarab



OWASP Top Ten Coverage

OWASP Top Ten	OWASP ESAPI
A1. Cross Site Scripting (XSS)	Validator, Encoder
A2. Injection Flaws	Encoder
A3. Malicious File Execution	HTTPUtilities (upload)
A4. Insecure Direct Object Reference	AccessReferenceMap
A5. Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)	User (csrftoken)
A6. Leakage and Improper Error Handling	EnterpriseSecurityException, HTTPUtils
A7. Broken Authentication and Sessions	Authenticator, User, HTTPUtils
A8. Insecure Cryptographic Storage	Encryptor
A9. Insecure Communications	HTTPUtilities (secure cookie, channel)
A10. Failure to Restrict URL Access	AccessController

OWASP ASVS



- It is intended as a standard for how to verify the security of web applications
- It should be application-independent
- It should be development life-cycle independent
- It should define requirements that can be applied across web applications without special interpretation

OWASP ASVS & Top 10

V3 - Session Management Verification Requirements

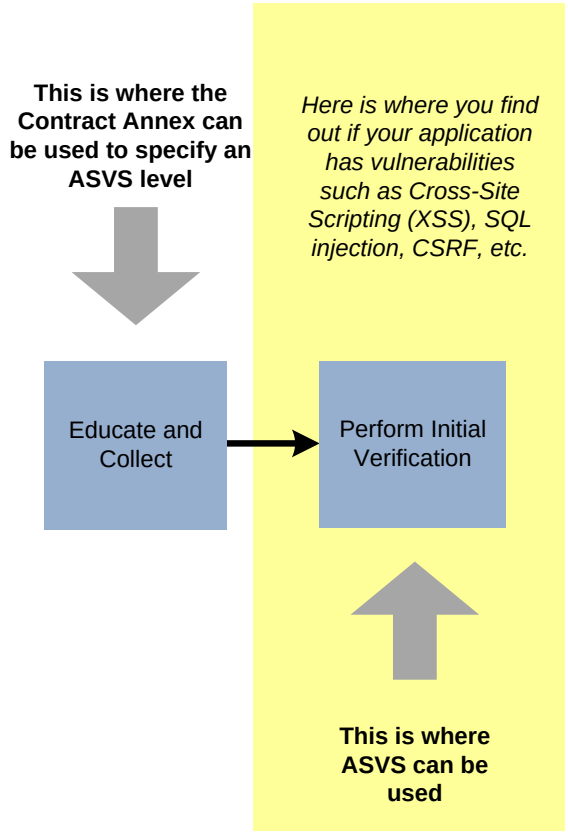
The Session Management Verification Requirements define a set of requirements for safely using HTTP requests, responses, sessions, cookies, headers, and logging to manage sessions properly. The table below defines the corresponding verification requirements that apply for each of the four verification levels.

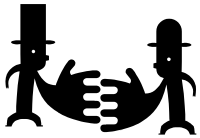
Table 3 - OWASP ASVS Session Management Requirements (V3)

Verification Requirement		Level 1A	Level 1B	Level 2A	Level 2B	Level 3	Level 4
V3.1	Verify that the framework's default session management control implementation is used by the application.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
V3.2	Verify that sessions are invalidated when the user logs out.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
V3.3	Verify that sessions timeout after a specified period of inactivity.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
V3.4	Verify that sessions timeout after an administratively-configurable maximum time period regardless of activity (an absolute timeout).					✓	✓

How do I get started using ASVS?

- Buyer and seller: agree how technical security requirements will be verified by specifying a level from 1 to 4
- Perform an initial verification of the application

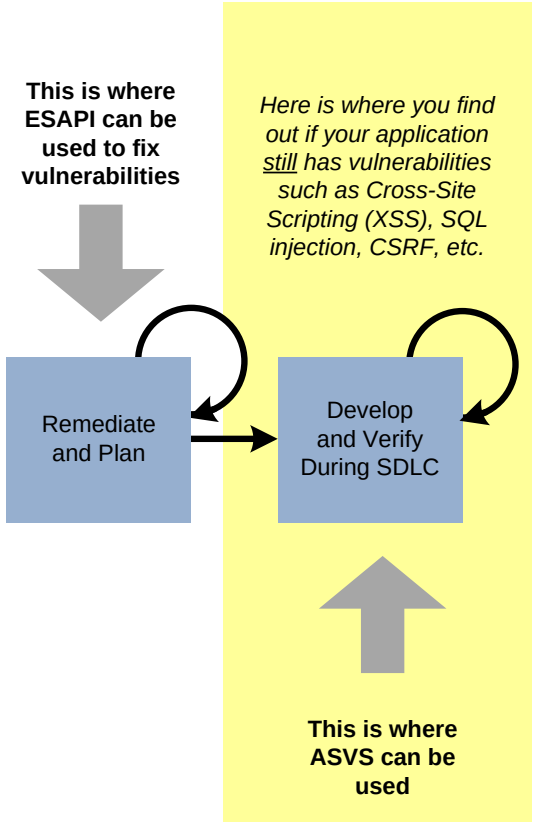




Using ASVS requires planning and in that respect is just like any other testing exercise!

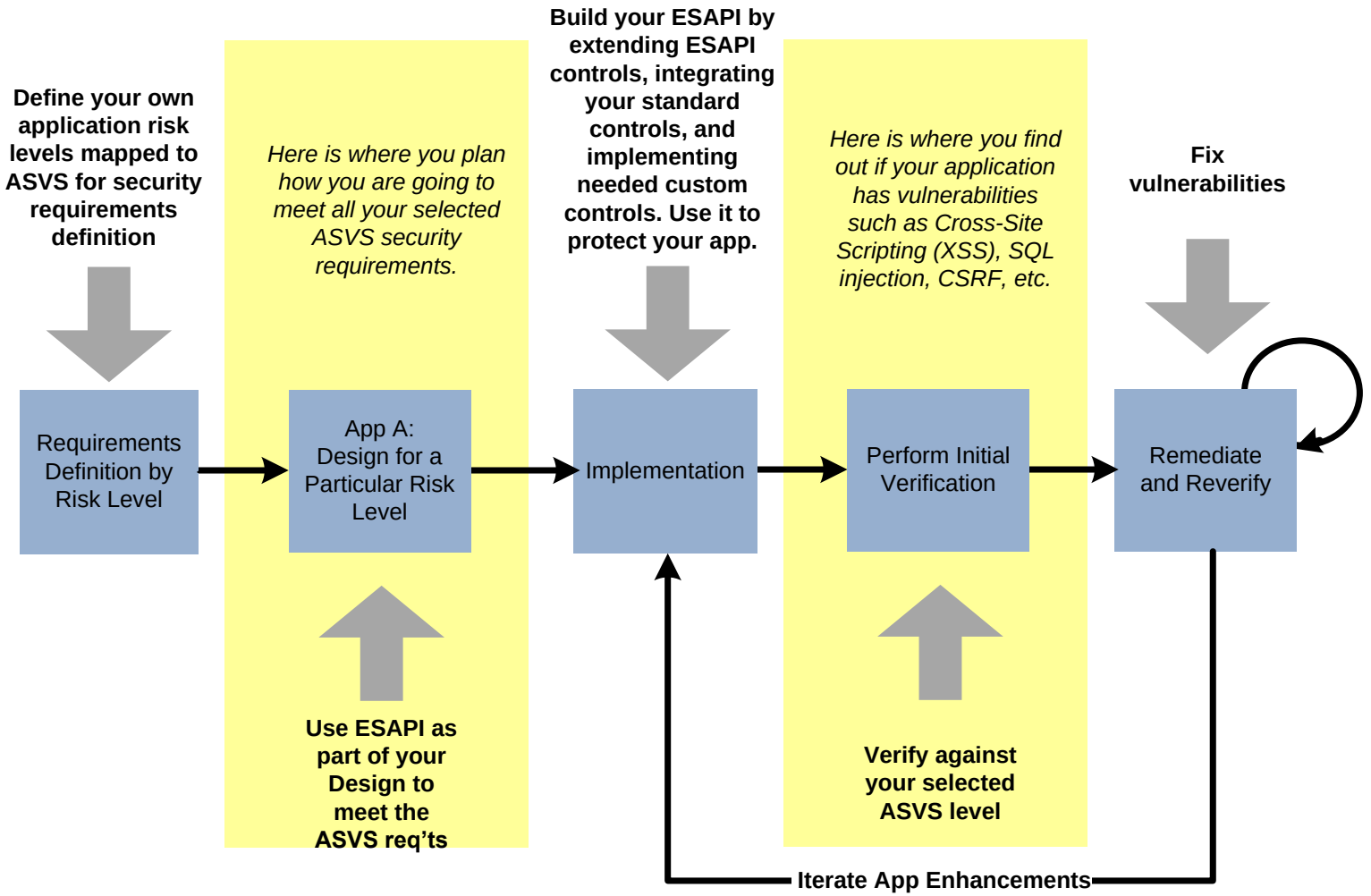
How do I get started using ASVS? (continued)

- Develop and execute a remediation strategy,
- Re-verify after fixes are made (repeat as necessary).
- Develop a strategy to add verifications into the SDLC as regular activities.



Tip: don't scare people when you present your findings! Be specific. Propose a specific fix or a workaround, if able.

Integrating ASVS into your SDLC
(Outsourcing not required)



Summary: How do you address these problems?

- Develop Secure Code
  - Follow the best practices in OWASP's Guide to Building Secure Web Applications
    - http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Guide
  - Use OWASP's Application Security Verification Standard as a guide to what an application needs to be secure
    - http://www.owasp.org/index.php/ASVS
  - Use standard security components that are a fit for your organization
    - Use OWASP's ESAPI as a basis for your standard components
    - http://www.owasp.org/index.php/ESAPI
- Review Your Applications
  - Have an expert team review your applications
  - Review your applications yourselves following OWASP Guidelines
    - OWASP Code Review Guide: http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Code_Review_Guide
    - OWASP Testing Guide: http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Testing_Guide

THANK YOU!