SongCS 161Spring 2015Computer Security

Discussion 8

(10 min)

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Question 1 The DOM

You will need to know a little bit about the Document Object Model (DOM) for this class. Pages on the web are structured trees with nodes that display the information we see when we visit a webpage. Javascript allows us to interact with it in browsers. Here's a very simple webpage:

```
<html>
```

```
<body>
  Hello World
  <img src="doge.com/doge.jpg">
   <script>
        alert("Hello!");
        </script>
        <script src="ads.com/doubleclick.js"></script>
   </body>
</html>
```

Question 2 The SOP

(10 min)

Let's get back to security. Notice that cross-site requests like getting the image from doge.com are all over the web. How does my browser prevent the owner of doge.com from sending some malicious file in place of the image I request and ruining my entire website? The Same Origin Policy (SOP) helps browsers maintain a sandboxed model by preventing certain webpages from accessing others. Two resources (can be images, scripts, HTML, etc.) have the same origin if they have the same protocol, port, and host. As an example, the URL http://inst.berkeley.edu/eecs has the protocol HTTP, its port is implicitly 80, the default for HTTP, and the host is inst.berkeley.edu.

Fill in the table below indicating whether the webpages shown can be accessed by http://amazon.com/store/item/83. Note: by "access," we generally mean that browsers disallow reading, but often still allow writing and embedding!

Origin	Can Access?	Reason if not
http://store.amazon.com/item/83		
http://amazon.com/user/56		
https://amazon.com/store/item/345		
http://amazon.com:2000/store		
http://amazin.com/store		

Question 3 Cookies and Other Food for Thought

(10 min)

In this question we'll consider some loopholes that attackers can manipulate.

- 1. An iframe can be loaded transparently on top of other elements in a page. Assuming an attacker can get users to visit a malicious site, how can they get them to like their Facebook page? How would you prevent this?
- 2. Cookies are often random secret strings used to store the fact that a user authenticated recently in their browser. Then, when the user requests the page again, the browser sends the cookie and the server knows the user is authenticated. How could this be a problem? How would you fix it?
- 3. What is the origin of a script like the example in the first section of the worksheet loaded from ads.com? How can an attacker use this to their advantage if they can somehow get their scripts on that page?