

Faculty of Computer Science Institute of Systems Architecture, Operating Systems Group

PROBLEMS IN PRACTICE: THE WEB

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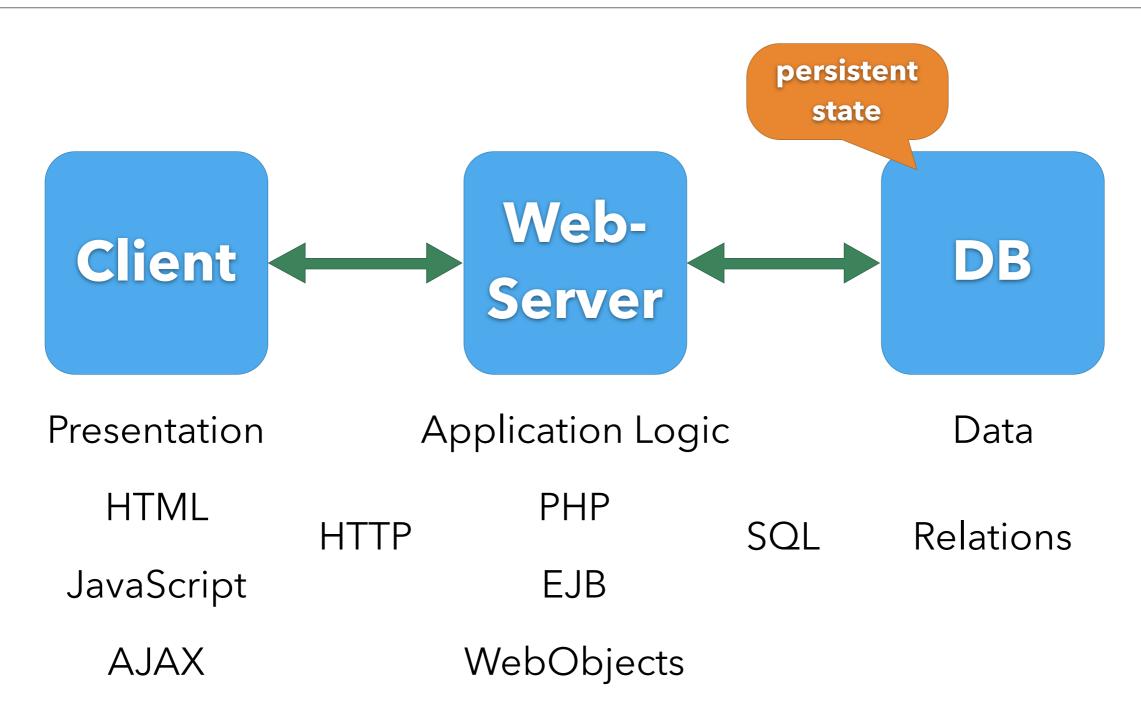
THE WEB AS A DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM



WEB HACKING SESSION

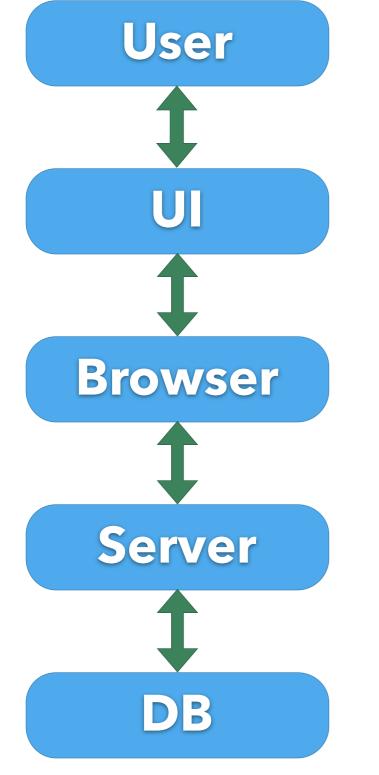








SCENARIO



user visits a service

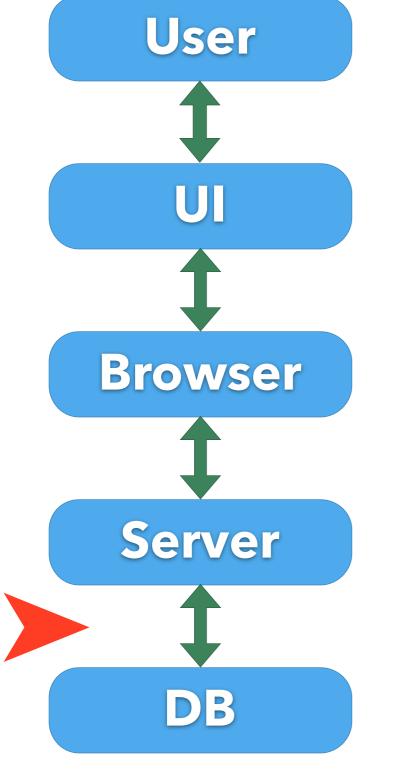
- attacker tries to disturb
- various complex layers

 independently developed technologies are being combined

what you see may not be what you get...



BACKEND



- goal: manipulate state stored in the database
- not directly accessible (hopefully)
- improper input checking in frontend server
 required
- nice: inconsistency is persistent

TU Dresden



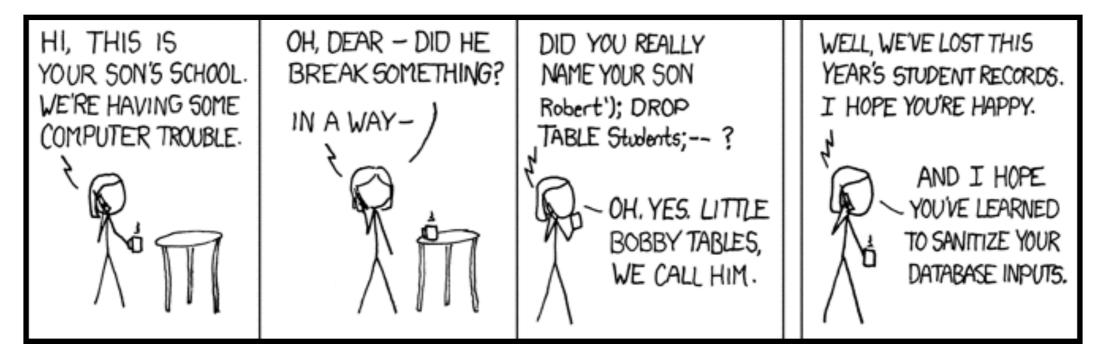
EXAMPLE IN PHP

\$password = \$_POST['password']; \$id = \$_POST['id']; \$sql = "UPDATE Accounts SET PASSWORD = '\$password' WHERE account_id = \$id";

Now imagine: password=';--SQL injection



BOBBY TABLES



Comic by Randall Munroe, xkcd.com

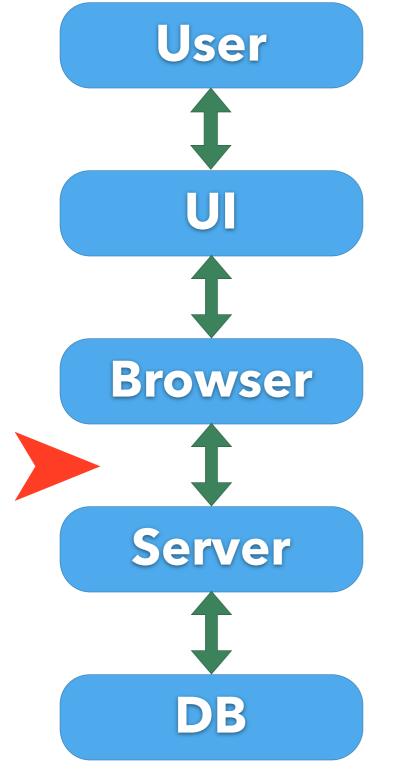


LICENSE PLATE





FRONTEND



- goal: manipulate content
 delivered to the browser
- infrastructure attacks like
 DNS cache poisoning
- solution for this:
 make sure you use SSL
- improper input checking can still bite you





- http://example.com/?query=query string
- generates website containing:
 You are looking for: query string
- so how about that: http://example.com/?query=HTML code
- remember that? http://www.wolfgang-schaeuble.de/? search=</div>...



STEPPING DOWN

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	24.05.2008 Bundesinnenminister tritt zurück wäre eine Meldung, die sicher viele gerne lesen würden. Allerdings handelt es sich nur um eine Cross-Site-Scripting-Schwachstelle im der Webseite des Politikers, der gerne die Online-Durchsuchung einführen möchte. Scherzbolde können dadurch beliebige Meldungen unter der Domäne wolfgang-schaeuble.de erstellen. Der Fehler liegt in der Suchfunktion des Internetauftritts, die HTML- und Skriptcode in Anfragen nicht ausfiltert. Grüße an dmk.	J
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XSS

- can inject <script> code
- this code will run with the privileges of the embedding site (think IE zones)

cross-site scripting

- Can you steal site credentials with this?
- imagine a bank website allowing injection
- How do you exfiltrate the password?



SAME ORIGIN

- JavaScript can access password fields
- you cannot use AJAX to send the password
- same origin policy
 - JavaScript may only connect back to the originating server (with some tolerance)
- can be defeated with tags
 - encode password in URL to ping your server
- JavaScript can also read cookies...



FIXES

- disallow cross-site image loading?
 - Iots of sites use this
- no JavaScript access to password field?
 - AJAX logins need this
- fix web application
 - well...
- never click on suspicious links
- always use SSL



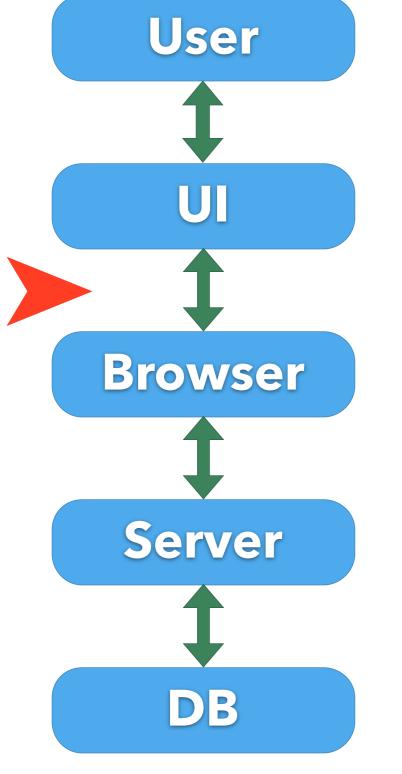
SSL

So you think SSL works?

- You explicitly type https://?
- Your site loads all JavaScript securely?
- Your platform checks for certificate revocation?
- Image: and for X.509 Basic Constraints?
- You trust all CAs on this planet to never issue broken certs?



REMOTE CONTROL



 goal: trick the browser to not show what's actually happening

- or: how to pull strings
 behind the user's back
- or: can one website control another one?
- no mischief with the server communication



SCENARIO

- user visits a regular website you control
- Can you use credentials of a different site?
- some preconditions
 - user is logged in to the target site in another browser tab
 - the target site identifies the user session with a cookie
- no cross-site cookie leakage in browser



CSRF

- same origin policy denies AJAX to target
- again, is your friend
- one website can send arbitrary requests to another, unrelated site
- cross site request forgery
- a special case of the confused deputy problem
- requests are blindly operating the target



CAN DO

- send requests and GET parameters
 - click buttons in the UI of the target site
 - operate search fields and other text input
- basic or digest authentication? cookies?
 - browser automatically sends credential
 - session riding
- POST requests?
 - manufacture a <form> instead of



TARGETS

- study in late 2008: high-profile bank websites vulnerable
- browser-based port scanning
 - this is behind the corporate firewall
- WiFi routers with web interface
 - disable firewall
 - reset wifi protection
 - enable UPnP





- disable cross-site POST requests
 - GET requests should by definition never change persistent state
- never authenticate a change of persistent state by cookie only
- pass an additional credential
 - session ID in URL, edit tokens

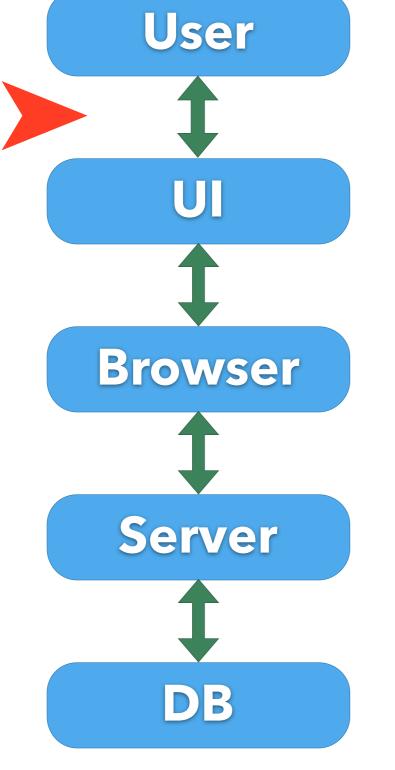


OTHERWISE

Log in	
Don't have a	an account? Create an account.
You must hav	e cookies enabled to log in to OSWiki.
Username:	
Password:	
	Remember my login on this computer
	Log in E-mail new password



BLINDNESS



 goal: mislead the user to not seeing what's actually happening

 nothing going on behind your back

the internal state of the browser is properly displayed

but you don't notice...

DOS: Problems in Practice



PICK ONE

www.paypal.com

CYRILLIC SMALL LETTER A (U+0430)

LATIN SMALL LETTER A (U+0061)

www.paypal.com

homograph attack





FRACTION SLASH (U+2044)

https://www.bank.com/account/login.ab.cd

www.bank.xn--comaccountloginuh0iha.ab.cd

https://www.bank.com/account/login.ab.cd

www.bank.com





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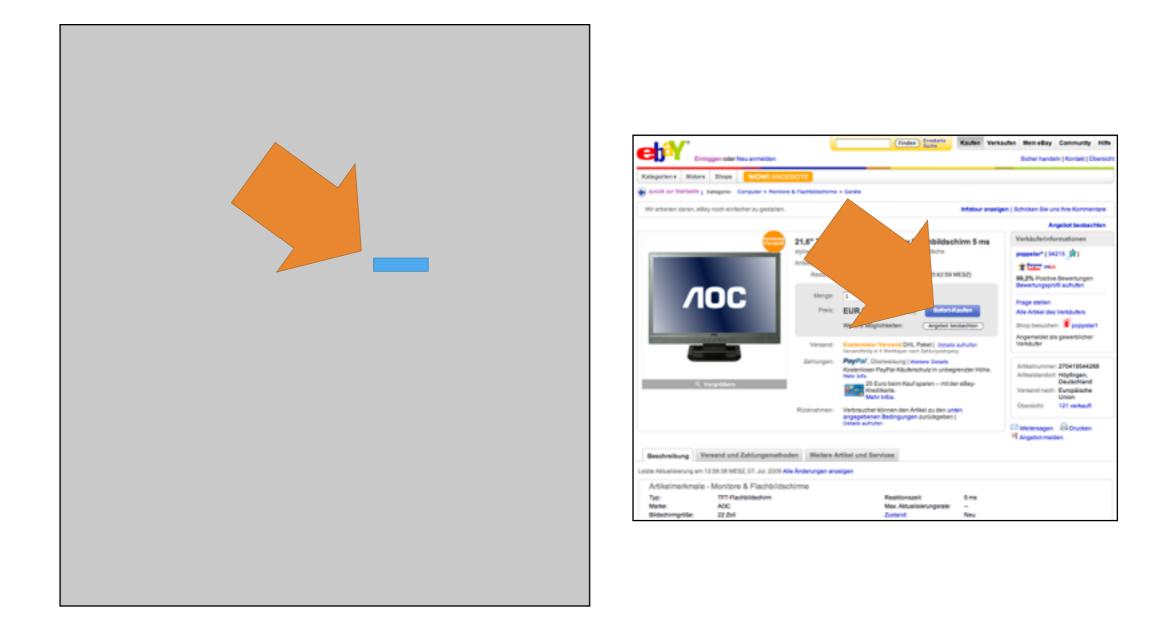








CLICKJACKING





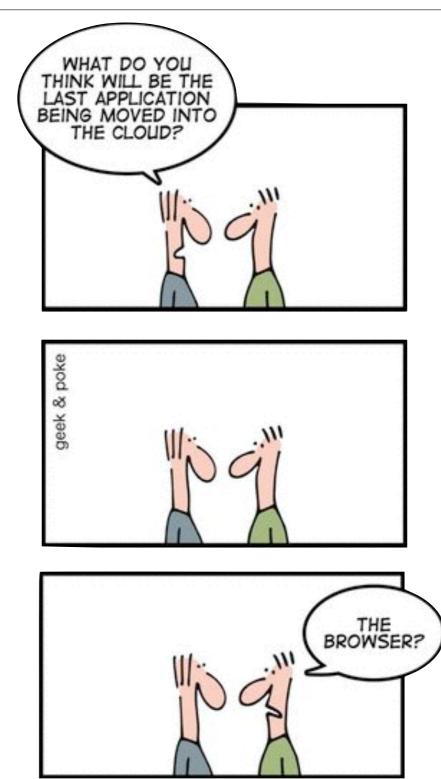


- this only works when logged in
 - always log out explicitly
 - do not use persistent logins
- you may want to check wether your password manager autofills inside frames



CONCLUSION

- web standards have gotten complex
- even bug-free behavior is vulnerable
- browsers are a bad
 application platform
- we did not even talk about WebSockets, WebGL, WebRTC, ...







Is everything lost?

Yes