

# Web Sever Security



**APACHE; MYSQL; NIKTO**

BY:  
MEGAN CUTLER  
AND  
RITIKA MOORJANI

# Introduction



- **Topics Covered**

- Security Checking using Nikto
- Dangers of Default Installation
- Ways to Secure Apache
  - ✦ Compiling
  - ✦ Configuration
- SSL
- Damn Vulnerable Web App
- Dangers of SQL Injection
- Securing MySQL



# Nikto



- Designed specifically for scanning web servers
- Identifies the type of server running
- Scans for dangerous files, configuration options and dangerous exploits
- lists potential exploits including how an attacker could abuse them
- Released by Cirt.net (<http://www.cirt.net/nikto2>)

# Default Installations



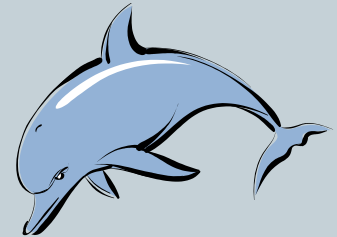
- **Apache:**

- Install: `yum install httpd`
- Start: `service httpd start`



- **MySQL**

- Install: `yum install mysql mysql-server`
- Start: `service mysqld start`



# Nikto Results Against Default Installation



```
[root@localhost nikto]# nikto -h 10.255.32.104
```

-----  
- Nikto 1.36/1.37 - www.cirt.net

+ Target IP: 10.255.32.104

+ Target Hostname: 10.255.32.104

+ Target Port: 80

+ Start Time: Thu Nov 12 12:49:11 2009  
-----

- Scan is dependent on "Server" string which can be faked, use -g to override

+ Server: Apache/2.2.8 (Fedora)

+ Allowed HTTP Methods: GET,HEAD,POST,OPTIONS,TRACE

+ OSVDB-877: HTTP method ('Allow' Header): 'TRACE' is typically only used for debugging and should be disabled. This message does not mean it is vulnerable to XST.

+ OSVDB-877: TRACE option appears to allow XSS or credential theft. See [http://www.cgisecurity.com/whitehat-mirror/WhitePaper\\_screen.pdf](http://www.cgisecurity.com/whitehat-mirror/WhitePaper_screen.pdf) for details (TRACE)

+ OSVDB-3092: GET /manual/ : Web server manual found.

+ OSVDB-3268: GET /icons/ : Directory indexing is enabled: /icons

+ OSVDB-3268: GET /manual/images/ : Directory indexing is enabled: /manual/images

+ OSVDB-3233: GET /icons/README : Apache default file found.

+ 2673 items checked - 7 item(s) reported on remote host

+ End Time: Thu Nov 12 12:49:20 2009 (9 seconds)  
-----

+ 1 host(s) tested



# Ways to Make Apache More Secure



- **Compiling**
- **Configuration**
  - Configure Apache to run as its own user under its own group
  - Run in a chrooted environment
  - Configure Virtual Hosts
  - Disable directory indexing
  - Disable server side includes
  - Disable .htaccess and do not allow Override
  - Don't allow Apache to follow symbolic links
- **SSL**



# Compiling Apache



## Reasons to compile:

- Higher level of control over the program configuration
- Admin can compile for speed, reliability or **security**
- Select which modules are enabled and disable all others
- Unused features are not available to be exploited
- Better able to obscure data footprint
- Allows you to use as few default settings as possible



# Example Script



```
#!/bin/kish
LD_PRELOAD=/usr/lib/libmtmalloc.so

CC=cc
CFLAGS="-xO3 -mt -fsimple=1 -ftrap=%none -nofstore -xbuiltin=%all -xlibmil -xlibmopt -xregs=no%frameptr"
CPPFLAGS="-I/usr/local/include/ -I/usr/local/include/openssl -I/opt/SUNWspro/include -I/opt/sfw/include -I/usr/sfw/include"

CXX=CC
CXXFLAGS="-xO3 -mt -fsimple=1 -ftrap=%none -nofstore -xbulitin=%all -xlibmil -xlibmopt -xtarget=native -xarch-native -
xregs=no%frameptr"
LDFLAGS="-L/usr/local/lib -L/opt/sfw/lib -L/usr/ucblib -L/usr/sfw/lib -R/usr/local/lib -R/opt/sfw/lib -R/usr/ucblib -R/usr/sfw/lib"

export CC CFLAGS CXX CXXFLAGS CPPFLAGS LDFLAGS

./configure \
--enable-layout="int525" \
--enable-modules='auth-digest dav dav-fs dav-lock deflate info mime-magic rewrite so speling ssl unique-id usertrack vhost-alias' \
--with-ssl=/usr/local/ \
--with-ldap-lib=/opt/sfw/lib \
--with-ldap-include=/opt/sfw/include \
--with-mpm=perfork
```





# Virtual Hosts



- Allow hosting of multiple websites on a single server
- Only requires securing a single server
- Virtual hosts can be run under unique user accounts; ensures each host can only access its own files
- IP based; each host has a different IP address
  - Non-designated IP addresses rejected
- Name based; single IP address, different hostnames
  - Requires an add-in to apache to configure SSL
- Good for internal trusted servers such as intranets



# Example Virtual Host



```
<VirtualHost 10.0.0.10:443>
DocumentRoot "/export/srv/www/vhosts/mom.shop/htdocs/"

<Directory "/export/srv/www/vhosts/mom.shop/htdocs">
Options Indexes FollowSymLinks
AllowOverride none
Order Deny,Allow
Deny from all
Allow from All
</Directory>

ServerName www.mom.shop
ServerAlias mom.shop

SSLEngine ON
SSLCertificateFile /export/srv/www/vhosts/mom.shop/ssl/ssl.crt/mom.shop_cert.pem
SSLCertificateKeyFile /export/srv/www/vhosts/mom.shop/ssl/ssl.key/mom.shop_key.pem

Alias /cgi-bin/ "export/srv/www/vhosts/mom.shop/cgi/"
<Directory "/export/srv/www/vhosts/mom.shop/cgi/">
    SSLOptions +StdEnvVars
    Order Allow,Deny
    Allow from All
    Options ExecCGI
    AddHandler cgi-script .cgi
</Directory>

</VirtualHost>
```



# Secure Sockets Layer - SSL



- Encrypts segments of network connections
- Used to ensure authenticity and confidentiality
- Uses a certificate to verify the Server's identity
- Typically used for sensitive transactions; ie: when credit card info is entered during online shopping
- Each Virtual Host can be configured with its own SSL Certificate
- As we have seen, SSL is not perfect



# Creating an SSL Certificate



- Automated process; no people are involved
- Generate a Private Key
  - `Openssl genrsa -des3 -out server.key 1024`
- Generate Certificate Signing Request
  - `Openssl req -new -key server.key -out server.csr`
- Remove Passphrase from Key
  - `Openssl rsa -in server.key -out servername.key`
- Generate Self-Signed Certificate
  - `Openssl x509 -req -days 365 -in server.csr -signkey servername.key -out server.crt`



# SSL Certificate



# Nikto Results Against Compiled Installation



```
[root@localhost nikto]# nikto -h 142.204.16.10 -p 443
```

-----  
- Nikto 1.36/1.37 - [www.cirt.net](http://www.cirt.net)

+ Target IP: 142.204.16.10

+ Target Hostname: net1.senecac.on.ca

+ Target Port: 443

+ Start Time: Thu Nov 12 13:16:18 2009  
-----

- Scan is dependent on "Server" string which can be faked, use -g to override

+ Server: Apache

- Server did not understand HTTP 1.1, switching to HTTP 1.0

+ Server does not respond with '404' for error messages (uses '400').

+ This may increase false-positives.

+ No CGI Directories found (use '-C all' to force check all possible dirs)

+ 2673 items checked - 1 item(s) reported on remote host

+ End Time: Thu Nov 12 13:19:23 2009 (13 seconds)  
-----

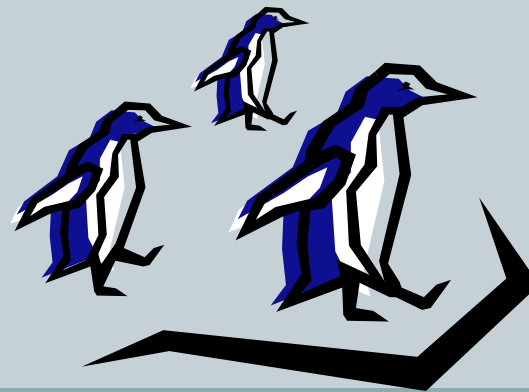
+ 1 host(s) tested



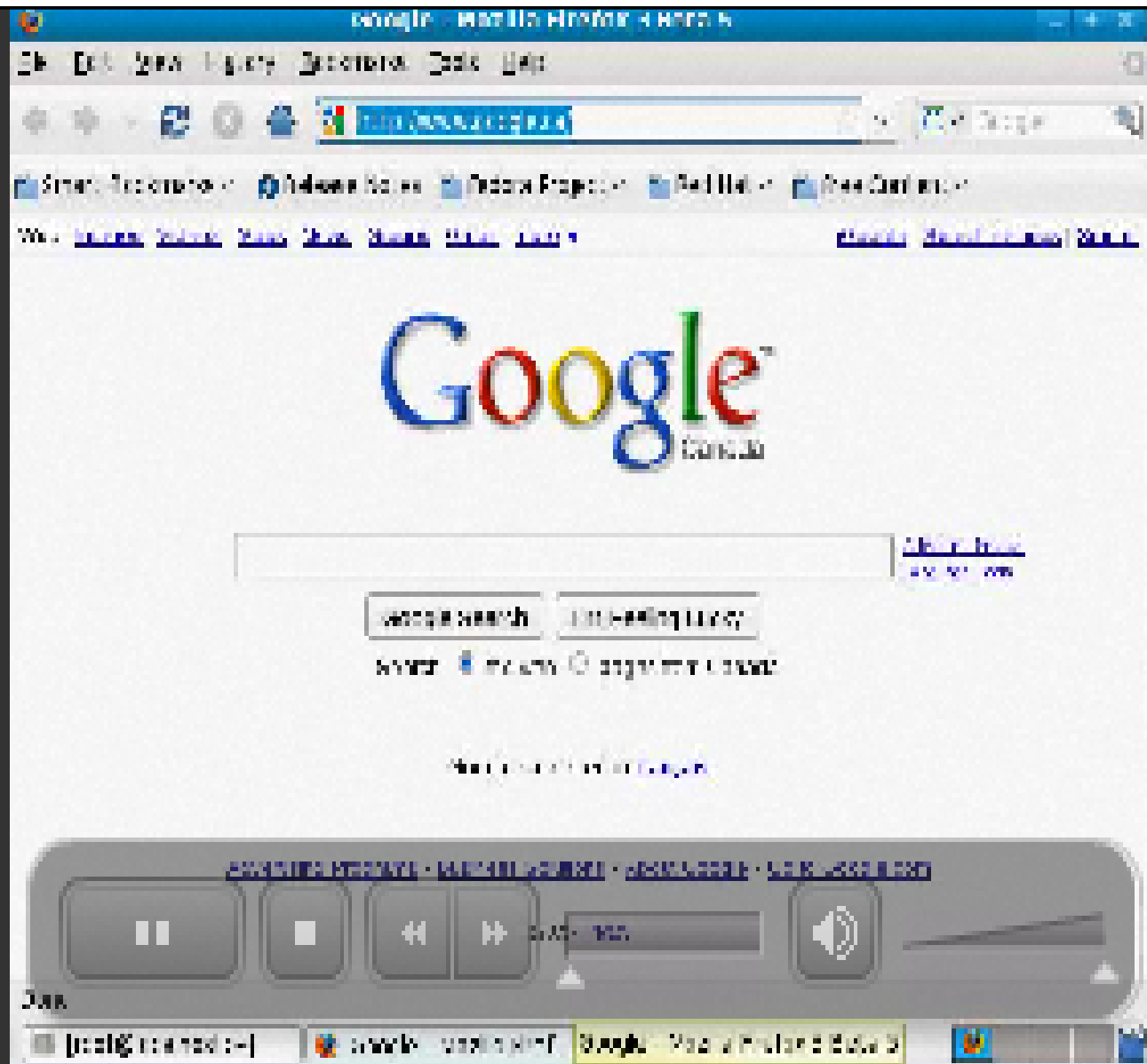
# Damn Vulnerable Web App



- It is a web application that is damn vulnerable.
- It is light weight, easy to use and full of vulnerabilities to exploit.
- It has been developed for the use of information security professionals and students to test the tools in a legal environment.



# Damn Vulnerable Web App





# SQL Injection



## **What is SQL Injection?**

- A code injection technique that exploits a security vulnerability occurring in the database layer of an Application

## **When does SQL Injection Occur?**

- When user input is incorrectly filtered for string literal escape characters embedded in SQL statements

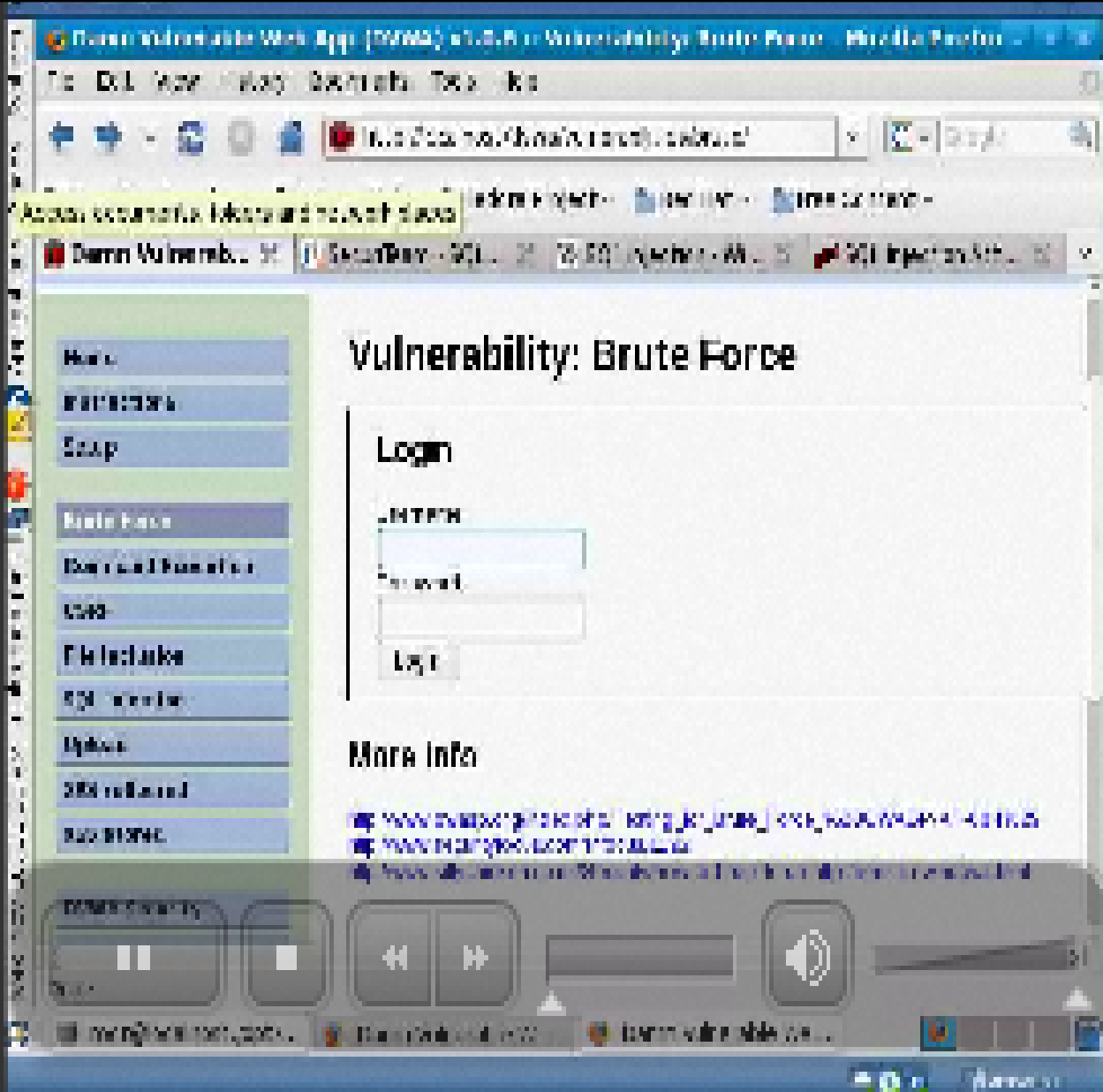
**This causes unexpected execution of unauthorized code**



# Damn Vulnerable Web App



# Damn Vulnerable Web App



# SQL Injection Examples



- **Incorrectly filtered escape characters**
  - statement = "SELECT \* FROM users WHERE name = '" + userName + "';"
- **Incorrect type handling**
  - statement := "SELECT \* FROM data WHERE id = " + a\_variable + ";"
- **Conditional responses**
  - SELECT booktitle FROM booklist WHERE bookId = '00k14cd' AND 1=1;



# Protecting MySQL



- Every piece of data supplied by a user must be validated to be sure it does not contain information that is not expected.
- User can supply data through the following:
  - Web form
  - Through HTTP Post
  - CGI parameters



# Conclusion



- Default Installations are dangerous and should be avoided
- Compile and configure web servers with security in mind
- Limit permissions of server so that a take over does not result in root privileges
- Use tools such as Nikto and Damn Vulnerable Web App to test vulnerability of your servers
- Questions?

