

Javascript for Pentesters



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XHR and HTML Parsing

Why HTML Parsing?

- XSS can be used to traverse the application
- HTML Pages might need to be processed
 - extract tokens
- Text based treatment is painful
- DOM based Parsing is required

HTML in XHR

HTML in XMLHttpRequest

The W3C [XMLHttpRequest](#) specification adds HTML parsing support to `XMLHttpRequest`, which originally supported only XML parsing. This feature allows Web apps to obtain an HTML resource as a parsed DOM using `XMLHttpRequest`.

Limitations

To discourage the synchronous use of `XMLHttpRequest`, HTML support is not available in the synchronous mode. Also, HTML support is only available if the `responseType` property has been set to "document". This limitation avoids wasting time parsing HTML uselessly when legacy code uses `XMLHttpRequest` in the default mode to retrieve `responseText` for `text/html` resources. Also, this limitation avoids problems with legacy code that assumes that `responseXML` is null for HTTP error pages (which often have a `text/html` response body).

Usage

Retrieving an HTML resource as a DOM using `XMLHttpRequest` works just like retrieving an XML resource as a DOM using `XMLHttpRequest`, except you can't use the synchronous mode and you have to explicitly request a document by assigning the string "document" to the `responseType` property of the `XMLHttpRequest` object after calling `open()` but before calling `send()`.

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/HTML_in_XMLHttpRequest

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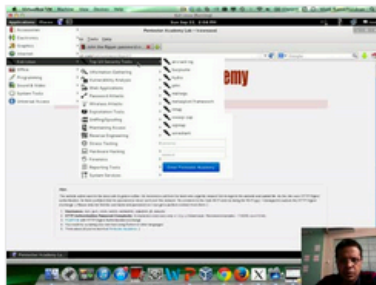
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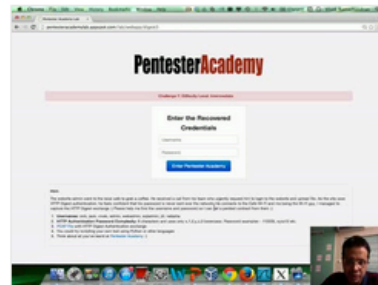
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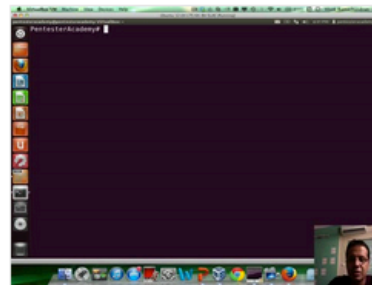
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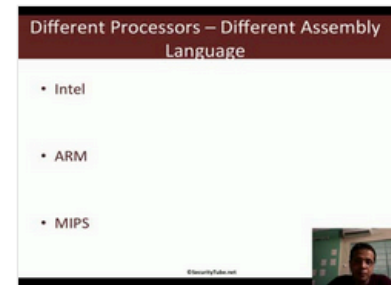
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