

Javascript Injection in Android Applications

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Privacy Implications of Mobile Devices

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Phones store a lot of sensitive data:

- call history, messages, pictures, e-mails
- location, speed, position, audio, video
- shopping, banking, medical

What Is a WebView?

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WebViews allow developers to build hybrid apps.

- Basically a browser engine that renders webpages
- Comfortable way to build OS-agnostic applications
- Sandboxed. Possible to define bridges to native app code
- Mixing of data and code

What Is Cross Site Scripting?

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Cross Site Scripting is an important security risk for web applications.

- There is some attacker-controllable data input
- The data does not get sanitized
- The data is made part of an HTML document that is displayed to the user

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- 1 Download random APKs from AndroZoo
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 - a Throw out apps that decompiled with errors

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 - b** Throw out apps without 'dangerous' permissions

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 - a Find HTML and JS files
 - b Check filenames against blacklist
 - c Build AST from javascript code
 - d Find search terms in AST
 - e Put matching code slices in json file
- 4 Delete apps without matches

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Analyzing the data:

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Analyzing the data:

- 1 Go through resulting json file
- 2 Find promising code slices while ignoring noise
- 3 Follow data from sink to source
- 4 Find out if source is attacker controllable
- 5 Confirm vulnerability by exploiting it

Search Terms

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- DOM API sinks
 - `elem.innerHTML = data`
 - `document.write(data)`
 - ...

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 - `document.write(data)`
 - ...
- JQuery sinks
 - `$(selector).html(data)`
 - `$(selector).append(data)`
 - ...

Search Terms

I concentrated on finding sinks, rather than sources.

- DOM API sinks
 - `elem.innerHTML = data`
 - `document.write(data)`
 - ...
- JQuery sinks
 - `$(selector).html(data)`
 - `$(selector).append(data)`
 - ...
- DOM API sources
 - `localStorage.getItem(key)`
 - `document.referrer`
 - ...

Challenges

Along the way, there were some challenges:

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Along the way, there were some challenges:

- Using the proper tools
- Filtering out the noise
- Practically confirming vulnerabilities

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Marine Pollution App

Marine Pollution Protection Pocket Checklist

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- Application that helps you comply to maritime laws

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- Application that helps you comply to maritime laws
- 10'000+ installs

Marine Pollution App

Marine Pollution Protection Pocket Checklist

- Application that helps you comply to maritime laws
- 10'000+ installs
- read/write storage, record audio/video, internet, network state, phone state

Marine Pollution App

Sink

```
function updateQuestionNote(qnum, qnid, qnnote){
  str = '<p class="notesbox">' + qnnote + '</p>';
  $('#mqn' + qnid).html(str)
  $('#tqn' + qnid).html(str)
}
```

Source

```
$('#qnotesave').click(function(e){
  saveQuestionNote($('#notesform #qnotes').val());
  return false;
})
```

Car Insurance App

Ing & McKee App

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- Application that helps you manage your insurance policy and make insurance claims

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- Application that helps you manage your insurance policy and make insurance claims
- 100+ installs
- write to storage, coarse/fine location, internet, network state

Car Insurance App

Sink

```
function updateDrivers(tx, results) {
  driverHTML += results(i).firstName;
  $("#allDrivers").prepend(driverHTML);
}
```

Source

```
function updateToLatestDrivers() {
  notesDB.transaction(function (tx) {
    tx.executeSql('SELECT * FROM otherDrivers
      where NoteID = ?', [id], updateDrivers);
  })
}
```

Wikipedia App

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- Application that allows you to access and edit Wikipedia
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- write to storage, fine location, get/authenticate/manage accounts, internet, network state, ...

Wikipedia App

Sink

```
bridge.registerListener(  
  "displayLeadSection",  
  function( payload ) {  
    var content = document.createElement( "div" );  
    content.innerHTML = payload.section.text;  
    document.getElementById( "content" )  
      .appendChild( content );  
  }  
);
```

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What I want to do next:

- Find more useful vectors for injecting the code
- Confirm / reject vulnerability in Wikipedia app
- Report findings
- Automate the detection of injection vulnerabilities

Thank You for Your Attention.

Questions?