Security and Privacy

Lecture 13

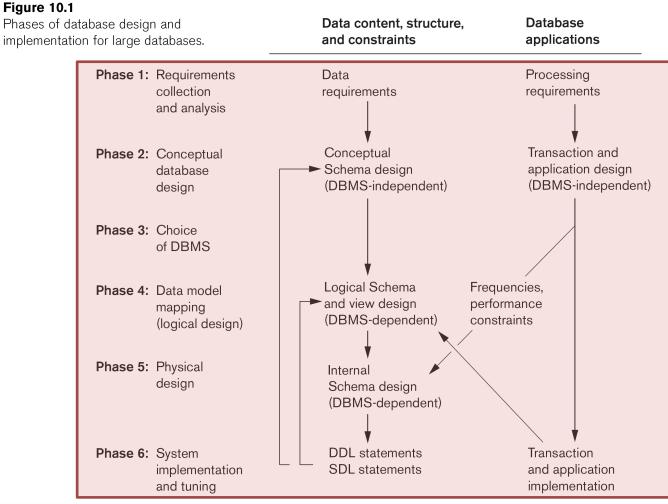


Outline

- Context
- Access Control
 - Discretionary, Mandatory
 - Least Privilege, Separate Privileges
 - Strong password policies, 2FA
- Attacks
 - SQL Injection
 - DoS (limit password length!)
 - Brute force password attempts (iCloud)
 - Internal vs. External (80% internal via Oracle)
 - Separate server, updates, audit logs
- Inference Control
- Encryption
 - Symmetric, Asymmetric, Hashing tricky to get right!
 - Whole Database (and backups!), Communication
 - Sensitive Data (salting)



Database Design and Implementation Process



Guidelines

- Security as first-class citizen
 - Early on security was an add-on, now it is everything.
- Security via depth
 - Don't assume a firewall will save you
- Design for failure
 - What happens after a breach occurs?
- Secure the weakest link
 - Anything but the crypto!
- Obscurity is not security
 - Keys in binary stand out like sore thumbs
 - Stored procedures are not a cure for access control

Authentication Policies

- Passwords
 - Enforce minimum length/complexity
 - Also maximum (more later w.r.t. DoS)
 - Require updates
 - Goal: make guessing/cracking difficult
 - Cross-service
- Attempts
 - Enforce limits to avoid brute force (iCloud)
- 2 Factor Authentication (2FA)
 - Often infeasible
 - Implementation may weaken
 - e.g. Social engineering

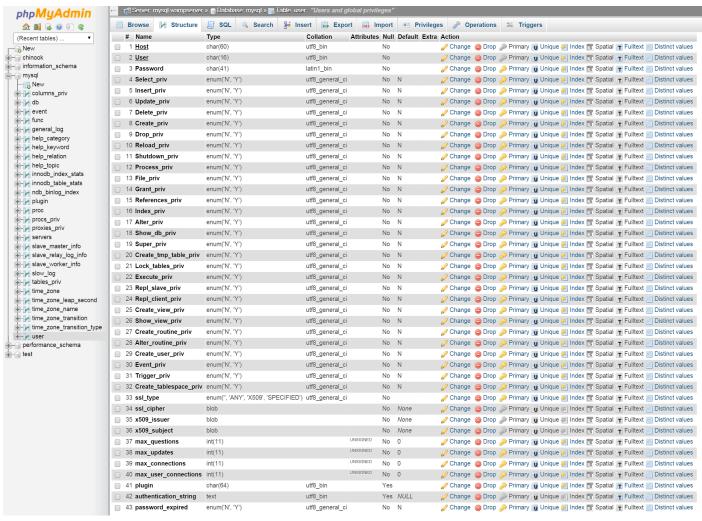


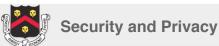
Discretionary Access Control

- Users grant/revoke privileges to other users
 - Starts with root/superuser/dba
 - with GRANT OPTION
- Privileges typically apply at multiple levels
 - Global, database, table, column
- Access matrix model
 - Users x Objects
- Fairly universal



MySQL (user)





25 March 2015 7

MySQL (db)





MySQL (tables_priv)



MySQL (columns_priv)



Mandatory Access Control

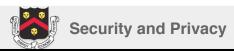
Objects are classified with security levels

Users are afforded security clearance

Government model, not typically supported

Privilege Policies

- Principle of least privilege
- Privilege separation
 - Multiple users, each with least privilege
- Abuse
 - Unauthorized
 - Mitigate escalation attacks
 - Authorized
 - Teachers changing grades
 - Firing a DBA



SQL Injection

SQL manipulation for nefarious purpose

Method

- String manipulation
 - Parameters, function calls
- Code injection (e.g. buffer overflow)

Goals

- Fingerprinting
 - Learn about service via version, configuration
- DoS
- Bypass authentication/privilege escalation
- Remote execution

Protection

- Parameterized statements
- Filter input
- Limit use of custom functions



Denial of Service (DoS)

Any exposed interface:

- Failed login
 - Lock out users
 - Resource utilization via long password verification
- Complex queries

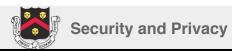
Mitigation

- Resource limits
- Patching
- Monitoring



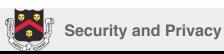
Issues

- Protect against internal attacks
 - Oracle: up to 80% of data loss
- Isolate DBMS
 - Separate machine, VM
- Regular patching policies
- Audit logs



Inferential Security

- Relevant when offering parameterized access to aggregate data
 - But must protect sensitive individual data!
- Prior knowledge and/or clever exploration might yield queries that reveal private information
 - Find "average" salary of <insert conditions that identify single individual>
- Techniques
 - Minimum result set size threshold
 - Added noise
 - Group partitioning



Encryption

- Symmetric
 - Single key encrypts/decrypts
- Asymmetric
 - 2 Keys: public encryption, private decryption
- Hashing
 - No decryption
- Encryption theory is solid, implementation is tricky
 - High-quality randomness
 - Bug-free code



Basics

- Encrypt database files
 - Including backups!
 - Native or 3rd-party wrapper
 - Can be difficult to implement while being resilient to restarts, high-performance
- Encrypt application communication

Sensitive Data

 When dealing with sensitive data, always consider how it needs to be used

- If only verification (e.g. password), hash
- If usage, encrypt
 - Ideally segment usage (e.g. CC entry vs. processing = public/private + last 4 as string)

Password Salting

- Salt = additional input prepended to hashed value
 - Ideally 1 salt per sensitive value
 - Stored text = salt, hash(salt + sensitive value)
 - Possibly several hashes
- Increases complexity of usefully processing bulk data
 - Re-use within service, across services
 - Rainbow tables

