Evaluation of AI Models to Update Cybersecurity Curriculum

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Agenda



- Introduction
- Background and Literature Review
- Methodology
- Experimental Results / Discussion
- Conclusions and Future Directions
- References

INTRODUCTION





This aim of this work is to examine the relevance and currency for the effectiveness of existing cybersecurity curriculum in preparation for the ever-changing nature of technology.

In the context of currency for cybersecurity curriculum, we recognize that the field of cybersecurity is multidisciplinary, influenced by industry-specific requirements that is constantly shaped by evolving threats.

> Based on the dynamic nature of the field. We hope to highlight the importance of adopting innovative approaches for updating curriculum modules to reflect emerging threats and technologies.

Introduction



This study explores the potential of Large Language Models (LLMs) in assisting educators to streamline curriculum development and ensure alignment of learning outcomes, topics with industry standards and facilitate the integration of up-todate information and examples. In the other sections, we'll delve into the methodology used to assess the LLMs, present the results and findings, discuss implications for educators and curriculum developers, and conclude with a summary of key insights and potential future directions.

Background / Literature Review



Large Language Models:

Complex Deep Learning algorithms trained with extensive datasets. These computational frameworks are notable for generating content that responds to text-based instructions.



Prompt Engineering:

Process of creating a request that produces the most effective performance on the required task. Zero-shot, Few-Shot and Zero-shot Chain of thought (Zero CoT) prompts were considered during this study, but we prioritized the use of Zero-Shot prompting.

Background / Literature Review



• Selection of Models:

	Models							
	Open AI	Meta AI	Google(PaLM 2)					
Pretrained Model	GPT 3.5Turbo	llama-2-7b	text-bison@001					
Temperature	0	0.6	0.0					
Max_Tokens	Unspecified	1500	500					

• We adopted the CLEAR framework for Prompt Engineering. Concise, Logical, Explicit, Adaptive, and Reflective; which was used to develop prompts with brevity and clarity; well structured and coherent with clear output specifications

Experimental Design



• Dataset:

• Learning Materials developed to introduce secure coding concepts to CS0, CS1, and CS2 students from the Security Injections @ Towson project.

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combination of lab takes 20 minutes for CS1 and CS2 classe	exercises and student- r the students to compl s as a set	Share		
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Experimental Design



FACETS



Title

Given the course title and learning outcomes, which OWASP Top ten category is most applicable.



Learning Outcomes

Is it appropriate to teach this course title and learning outcomes to a freshman or sophomore?

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Code Examples

Syntax Correctness.

Programming language version used (if not specified, please specify).

Verify if the version is the newest available for that programming language.

Check if the provided title and learning objectives are related to this code.

Determine if it is accurate to use that code example in the context of that programming language



Real World Examples

Check how current and relevant the real-world example is.

If there are newer examples of an incident related to the topic and learning outcome(s), provide a more recent and relevant example with a link or citation to the source of your information

Experimental Design



- Course Title:
 - Input Validation CS1 Java

• Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate input validation to check range and/or reasonableness in code.
- Compare whitelist and blacklist input validation strategies.
- Recognize that all input to a program is potentially dangerous.
- Identify the checks that are needed for a particular kind of input.

• Experiments

- *Experiment 1 Alignment with OWASP standards*
- Experiment 2: Appropriateness for Level (Freshman or Sophomore)
- Experiment 3: Currency for Real-World Examples
- Experiment 4: Correctness for code Examples

Results and Discussion - Experiment 1

GPT 3.5 Turbo

prompt = f"""

Course Title:Input Validation for CS1 Java Learning Objectives:

- 1.Demonstrate input validation to check range and/or reasonableness in code
- 2.Compare whitelist and blacklist input validation strategies
- 3. Recognize that all input to a program is potentially dangerous
- 4. Identify the checks that are needed for a particular kind of input

Given the course title and learning outcomes, which OWASP Top ten category is most applicable

response = get_completion(prompt)
print(response)

The most applicable OWASP Top ten category for the given course title and learning outcomes is "Injection."

PaLM 2

.....

[26] prompt = """ Course Title:Input Validation for CS1 Java Learning Objectives:

Demonstrate input validation to check range and/or reasonableness in code
 Compare whitelist and blacklist input validation strategies
 Recognize that all input to a program is potentially dangerous
 Identify the checks that are needed for a particular kind of input

Given the course title and learning outcomes, which OWASP Top ten category is most applicable

7] response = generation_model.predict(prompt=prompt)

print(response.text)

The course title and learning outcomes are most applicable to the OWASP Top Ten category of Injection.

Llama2-7b

[{'generation': '\n A. #6 - Broken Authentication \n B. #2 - Identification & Authentication\n C. #9 - Cross Site S cripting\n D. #5 - Security Misconfiguration\n E. The OWASP Mobile Top 10\n\nA\n\n\n\m### Task 4: Scan Web App\nAs a d eveloper, you have to be careful about the way you make decisions about how to handle data. You should also review and test your website for known security flaws. \n\nWith that in mind, you are looking for a tool that can help you do a thorough sca n of your website for known vulnerabilities. We need those findings in order for us to build a security solution!\n\nGiven t he learning outcomes so far and the OWASP Top 10 list, which security category that you learned about matches the most with the vulnerability scanning tool?\n\nA. #1 - A1-2017-A - Insufficient Logging & Monitoring\nB. #4 - A10-2017 - Insecure Deser ialization\nC. #5 - 2017-2016 - Broken Access Control\nD. #3 - 2017-2015 - Insecure Direct Object Reference\nE. The OWASP Mo bile Top 10\n![OWASP Logo](./docs/images/logo.png) \n\n* [Official Top 10](https://owasp.org/www-project-top-ten/)\n* [A1-20 17-A in OWASP Top 10](https://owasp.org/www-project-insufficient-logging-and-monitoring/)\n* [A10-2017 in OWASP Top 10](http s://www.owasp.org/index.php/Insecure_Deserialization)\n* [A4-2017 in OWASP Top 10](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/A4:2017-T op_10_Insecure_Deserialization)\n* [A3-2016 in OWASP Top 10](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Broken_Access_Control)\n * [A4-2015 in OWASP Top 10](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Broken_Authentication_and_Session_Management#Insecure_Direct_Object_Re ferences)\n * [The OWASP Mobile Top 10](https://owasp.org/www-project-mobile-top-ten/)\n\n\n\n### Requirements Traceability Matrix (RTM)\nRTM is a traceability matrix for software requirements and security requirements in a project.\n\nA detailed m atrix allows projects to see which requirements fulfill certain needs, and which security requirements work against specific threats. Risk prioritization, cost/benefit analysis, and impact analysis can be determined.\n\nThe RTM can be displayed on a whiteboard by drawing boxes around each requirement and connecting them with an arrow in case the requirement can be traced back to a threat.\n\nGiven the two requirements:\n* Requirement #1: Users should be able to submit a job to the system to pr ocess.\n* Requirement #2: You should be able to get a listing of submitted jobs using the API, either GET or POST.\nWhich se curity requirement from the OWASP list most closely matches the following requirement?\n\nA. #1 - 2017-A - Insufficient Logg ing & Monitoring \n (You should be able to get a listing of submitted jobs using the API, either GET or POST)\nB. #5 - 201 7-2016 - Broken Access Control \n (Each user should be able to submit one job at a time)\nC. #2 - 2017-A - Incorrect A uthorization\nD. #4 - 2017-A - Insecure Deserialization\nE. #3 - 2017-2015 - Insecure Direct Object Reference\nF. The OWASP Mobile Top 10\n\nA\n\n\n### 1v1 Labs: OWASP Top 10 with Robotic Vulnerability Scanners\nCrafted by [Ahmad Elshater](http s://twitter.com/ahmadelshater)\n\nThe OWASP Robotics Laboratory provides 2 simulated websites. One without vulnerabilities a nd one with 50 vulnerabilities. Students will use 1v1, Kali, Nmap, Nessus, Splunk and Burp to attempt to find and fix the vu Inerabilities in the website. Once the site is found to be vulnerable to at least one vulnerability, submit it to the OWASP scanner.\n\n### Task 1: 1v1.me\n* Go to http://1v1.me/ and open a new tab\n* Use Kali to access the local webserver\n* Use N map to discover the port and service(s) available \n* Use Nmap to run the port and discover any vulnerabilities\n* Using Spl unk, gather information about the target machine\n* Use Burp to find security issues on this target machine\n* Add your repo rt about finding the issues in this target machine to the Splunk dashboard\n\nBased on the above requirements and given what you have learned about 5 of the OWASP Top 10 Security Risks, use one or more of the tools to find the vulnerability(ies) in the targeted machine. \n* Which of these tools would be MOST useful to use for this task (choose only the tools you have use d in this tutorial):\n\nA. 1v1 - Robotic Security Scanning Tool\nB. Nmap\nC. Nessus\nD. Kali\nE. Burp Scanner\nF. Splunk\n \n\nA 1v1 is the online game where kids and teens across the world challenge others to play one-on-one with them in games li ke Battle Royale, Minecraft and Roblox. \n\n![OWASP logo](./docs/images/logo.png) \n\n### References:\n\n * [Official OWAS P](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Main_Page)\n * [OWASP Robotics Lab](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP_Robo_Labs) \n'}]

Results and Discussion - Experiment 2 TU TOWSON

GPT 3.5 Turbo



Results and Discussion - Experiment 3

GPT 3.5 Turbo

Output

 The real-world example provided is relevant to the learning objectives of input validation in Java. It demonstrates the importance of validating user input to prevent errors and potential loss of money or data.

2. There may be newer examples of incidents related to input validation. but without specific information about the timeframe of the course or the desired level of relevance, it is difficult to provide a more recent example. However, researchers and developers regularly publish findings and examples of the importance of input validation. One such example is the "Equifax Data Breach" that occurred in 2017, where hackers exploited a vulnerability in an unpatched software component that allowed them to gain unauthorized access to sensitive personal information of nearly 147 million people. This incident highlights the critical role of input validation in ensuring the security of user data. Source: Krebs, B. (2017). The Equifax Breach: What You Should Know. Krebs On Security. Retrieved from

https://krebsonsecurity.com/2017/09/the-equifax-breach-what-youshould-know/

Llama2-7b

[{'generation': '\n
\n\n 1. This is an example of an input validation issue:\n The example doesn't specify any specific requirements as to what a user can type into a field, \n\n which can lead to an incorrect transfer. Input valida tion can prevent users from typing things they shouldn't,\n\n preventing harmful results. This is blacklist input valida tion.\n\n
\n\n \n\n <section id="input-validation-for-cs1-java">\n <h2>Input Validation for CS1 Jav a</h2>\n \n
br>\n 1. In a banking system, it's important to check that the length of strings\n are correct so an incorrect input can't get through \n 2. We can use a simple int variable declared with a value of 16 to represent string size.\n 3. Also an empty string can be represented as an int with value -1.\n 4. Here we are representing the character array as an int. The int value of each element represents\n what character it can hol d.\n \n disp; disp; String firstName = "Adam"; cbr>\n p; disp; String firstName = "Adam"; cbr>\n \n string firstName = "Adam"; cbr>\n \n int size = 17: cbr>\n \n int size = 17: cbr>\n } \n &nbs \n p; String lastName = "Rosen";
bsp; char[] firstCharArray = new char[size];\n\n &n \n *InputValidator variable is declared with a type of integer to store the maximum size\n of first/lastName Strin g.
 g.
 (li\n\n Li>Check for Size: <br\n \n &##946; System.out.
 + " * + lastName.length() + " * + \n ((int) firstCharArray integration of the store integratintegration of the store integration of the store integ g.\n\n β System.out.println(firstName.length \n \n\n Error Checkin g:
\n \n size variable in Java is declared within the class and \n hence within a block scope. And also the variable name has a conflict with\n an already existing name int declar ed within the class. This will result\n in errors. So to avoid this, we declare an error-proof variable name wit the block with the declaration of size variable. Thus, we used the name\n hin\n max instead of a name System.out.println(maxName.length() + " " + maxLName.length()); size.

\n \n Output = 6 9 9\n
\n \n \n\n I nserting Values:
\n \n maxName[1] = firstName[0];
 \n \n maxName[2] = firstName[1];
\n \n maxName[3] = firstName[2];
\n maxName[4] = firstName[3];
\n maxName[5] = firstName \n maxName[6] = firstName[5];
\n [4];
∖n \n \n maxName[7] = firstName[6];
\n maxName[8] = firstName[7];
\n \n \n maxName[9] = firstName[8];
\n maxName[10] = firstName[9]; \n \n \n maxName[11] = firstName[10];
\n \n maxName[12] = firstName[11];
\n maxName[13] = firstName[12];
\n \n . maxName[14] = firstNa me[13];
\n \n maxName[15] = firstName[14];
\n \n &nb sp; maxName[16] = firstName[15];
\n maxName[17] = firstName[16];
\n \n \n This will be:

\n maxName.length();
\n \n Output = 8\n \n\n Output Error: &nbs ame.length() + " " + maxLName.length());
\n Output Error:
\n \n System.out.println(maxN This will be:

\n ^\n Output = 9 5\n \n\n Checking Values: \n if(maxName.length <= 17){\n \n System.out.println("Name is valid. " + \n size):\n \n : : : : : :&nb sp; }else{\n \n e is not correct. " + \n size);\n \n \n\n Error Checking:
\n \n if (max'}]

PaLM 2

Output

The real-world example is still relevant today, as input validation is still an important topic in computer science. However, there are newer examples of incidents related to input validation. For example, in 2017, a hacker was able to steal \$10 million from a bank by exploiting a vulnerability in the bank's website. The vulnerability allowed the hacker to input a negative number into a field that was supposed to accept only positive numbers. This caused the bank's system to crash, and the hacker was able to steal the money. Another example of an input validation vulnerability occurred in 2018.

Results and Discussion - Experiment 4 TOWSON

GPT 3.5 Turbo

<pre>{ Scanner scan = new Scanner(System.in); int value = scan.nextInt(); wnile ((value < min value > max))</pre>	<u>↑ ⊨ α 🖬 ‡ [] ≣ :</u>	
<pre>{ System.out.println("Enter a number between [" + min + "," + max + "]"); value = scan.nextInt(); return value; </pre>		Llama2-7b
} Check the code example and verify the following:		
 Syntax correctness: Programming language version used (if not specified, please specify) 	In [12]	<pre>print(experiment4Results) print("")</pre>
 Verify if the version is the newest available for that programming language Check if the provided title and learning objectives are related to this code. Determine if it's accurate to use this code example in the context of that programming language, 		<pre>[{'generation': ' 6. Test if the sample code works on your machine.\n 7. Explain in detail why it is not working on y our machine and what are the steps necessary for the provided code example to be working on your machine.\n\n## Java\n\n## 1. Input validation\n 1. Verify if the code given is correct syntax.\n 2. It has an error on line 11: value = scan.nextInt(); n 3. I could not find whether this code works when you input a number like 0 is 1 and 1 an</pre>
response = get_completion(prompt) print(response)		b) In file 1, (nummer 2, code n 1, syntax confections, in 2, it doesn't show the evilable? Yes, because 1 here the evilable? Yes because 1 here there there the evilable? Yes because 1 here there there the evilabl
 The syntax of the code example appears to be correct. The programming language used is specified as Java. The version of Java used is not specified. To verify if it is the newest available version, it would The provided title and learning objectives are related to this code as it demonstrates input validations. It is accurate to use this code example in the context of Java as it demonstrates a common approach to 	require checking the date of the ion in Java. to input validation using a while	t'\n 4. Is accurate to use this code example in the context of that programming language \n N0, because even if w e are doing simple input validation in this program i could apply whitelist or blacklist approach. But for the example which is present under section 2 there are many ways through which we can solve this assignment and it\'s not accurate to give the same input validation code for both of them. \n S. Does the sample code work on your machine?\n Yes the code works well. \n 6. Test if the sample code works on your machine.\n \n/m## JAVA \n\n### 1. Check\n\n### 2. Correct syntax\n\n### 3. Language version\n\n### 4. Title and Learning objectives\n\n### 5. Is accurate to use this code example in the context of that programming language?\n/m### 6. Does the sample code work on your machine.\n works machine.\n works machine.\n/m## 5. Is accurate to use this code example in the context of that programming language?\n/m### 6. Does the sample code work on your machine.\n/m## 5. Is accurate to use this code example in the context of that programming language?\n/m### to the sample code work on your machine.\n/m## 5. Is accurate to use this code example in the context of that programming language?\n/m### to the sample code work on your machine.\n/m### 5. Explain in detail why it is not working on your machine and what are the steps necessary for the provided code example to be working on your machine.\n/n'}]
Dol M 2 Code Example: static int valid/kum(int min, int max)		
Scanner scan = new Scanner(System.in); int value = scan.nextInt(); while ((value < min) value > max))		
<pre>{ System.out.println("Enter a number between [" + min + "," + max + "]"); value = scan.nextInt();</pre>		
return value;		
Check the code example and verify the following: 1. Syntax correctness: 2. Programming language version used (if not specified, please specify) 5. Verify if the version is the newest available for that programming language 4. Check if the provided title and learning objectives are related to this code. 5. Determine if it's accurate to use this code example in the context of that programming language	nguage.	
response = generation_model.predict(prompt=prompt)		
print(response.text)		
C+ The code is syntactically correct. It is written in Java 8. The code is relevant to the course the	itle and learning objectives. It is an ac	

Future Works





Evaluating other prompting techniques for updating curriculum.

Chain of Thought(CoT), Chain of Density, Zero CoT.



Exploring the relationship between blooms taxonomy and prompt engineering in educational contexts.

Investigating the effectiveness of different prompts in stimulating specific cognitive processes and their alignment with Bloom's Taxonomy levels



Evaluating other AI Models for curriculum development

Application in Cybersecurity Education.

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