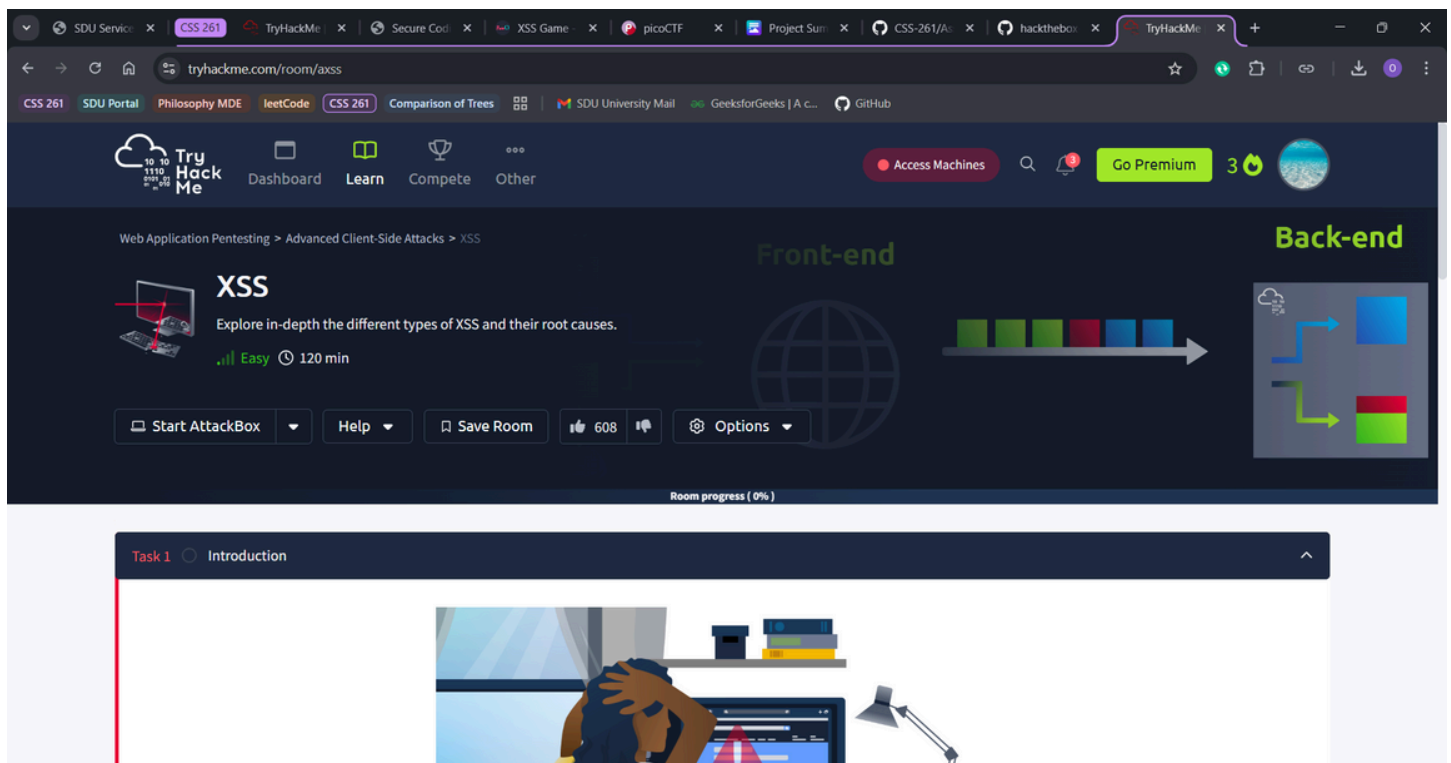


# TryHackMe

## XSS

Hi Teacher! This is how I've been able to solve this challenge:

We join the room called XSS



In here there is a lot of information about XSS attacks

After reading all of it, we can answer to these questions

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Room progress ( 4% )

- JavaScript Basics
- Intro to Cross-site Scripting
- Optional: Python Basics

Woop woop! Your answer is correct

## Learning Objectives

Upon the completion of this room, the user should gain a more in-depth understanding of XSS, in particular:

- Reflected XSS
- Stored XSS
- DOM-based XSS
- How to protect against XSS

We provide code snippets using different web frameworks to understand better the exploitation of and securing against XSS vulnerabilities. We don't focus on the code itself; we focus on the reasoning behind the vulnerability and some solutions. The purpose is to help us better understand why XSS came to exist and what makes it exploitable.

Answer the questions below

I completed the Intro to Cross-site Scripting room.

No answer needed

Correct Answer

Task 2 Terminology and Types

Task 3 Causes and Implications

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Room progress ( 19% )

To recap from the Intro to Cross-site Scripting room, there are three main types of XSS:

- Reflected XSS:** This attack relies on the user-controlled input reflected to the user. For instance, if you search for a particular term searched for (reflected), the attacker would try to embed a malicious script within the search term.
- Stored XSS:** This attack relies on the user input stored in the website's database. For example, if users can write product reviews displayed to other users, the attacker would try to insert a malicious script in their review so that it gets executed in the browsers.
- DOM-based XSS:** This attack exploits vulnerabilities within the Document Object Model (**DOM**) to manipulate existing page elements on the server. This vulnerability is the least common among the three.

Woop woop! Your answer is correct

Woop woop! Your answer is correct

Woop woop! Your answer is correct

Answer the questions below

Which XSS vulnerability relies on saving the malicious script?

Stored XSS

Correct Answer

Which prevalent XSS vulnerability executes within the browser session without being saved?

Reflected XSS

Correct Answer

What does DOM stand for?

Document Object Model

Correct Answer

Task 3 Causes and Implications

tryhackme.com/room/axss

Room progress (28%)

### Social engineering

Using XSS, an attacker can create a legitimate-looking pop-up or alert within a trusted website. This can trick users into clicking malicious links.

### Content manipulation and defacement

In addition to phishing and social engineering, an attacker might use XSS to change the website for other purposes, such as inflicting damage on the company's reputation.

### Data exfiltration

XSS can access and exfiltrate any information displayed on the user's browser. This includes sensitive information such as personal data and financial information.

### Malware installation

A sophisticated attacker can use XSS to spread malware. In particular, it can deliver drive-by download attacks on the vulnerable website.

Answer the questions below

Based on the leading causes of XSS vulnerabilities, what operations should be performed on the user input?

validation and sanitization

✓ Correct Answer

To prevent XSS vulnerabilities, what operations should be performed on the data before it is output to the user?

encoding

✓ Correct Answer

Task 4 Reflected XSS

tryhackme.com/room/axss

Room progress (47%)

Again, the solution lies in encoding the user input into HTML-safe strings. ASP.NET C# provides the `HttpUtility.HtmlEncode()` method, which encodes `>`, `<`, and `&` into their respective HTML entity encoding.

Answer the questions below

Which one of the following characters do you expect to be encoded? `<`, `>`, `;`, `&`, or `#`?

`&`

✓ Correct Answer

Which one of the following characters do you expect to be encoded? `+`, `-`, `*`, `<`, `=`, or `^`?

`<`

✓ Correct Answer

Which function can we use in JavaScript to replace (unsafe) special characters with HTML entities?

`escapeHtml()`

✓ Correct Answer

Which function did we use in PHP to replace HTML special characters?

`htmlspecialchars()`

✓ Correct Answer

Task 5 Vulnerable Web Application 1

Now in this task we got to exploit the url ourselves using this code:

Room progress (47%)

### Task 5 Vulnerable Web Application 1

Start the attached VM by clicking on the **Start Machine** button to finish this task.

The attached VM runs a vulnerable version of **copyparty**. The discovered reflected XSS vulnerability has the ID [CVE-2023-38501](#), and its exploit is published [here](#).

The exploit code is `?k304=y&0D%0A%00%0A%3Cimg+src%3Dcopyparty+onerror%3Dalert(1)%3E` which is the URL encoding of:

```
?k304=y <img src=copyparty onerror=alert(1)>
```

The attached VM has the vulnerable server running at port 3923. You can reach the vulnerable server at `http://MACHINE_IP:3923` via your AttackBox's browser.

Answer the questions below

What type of vulnerability is it?



Use the above exploit against the attached VM. What do you see on the second line after **go to**?



Task 6 Stored XSS

Task 7 Vulnerable Web Application 2

This is our vulnerable site

Not secure 10.10.37.179:3923

ip-10-10-37-179 / 6.37 GiB free of 9.62 GiB

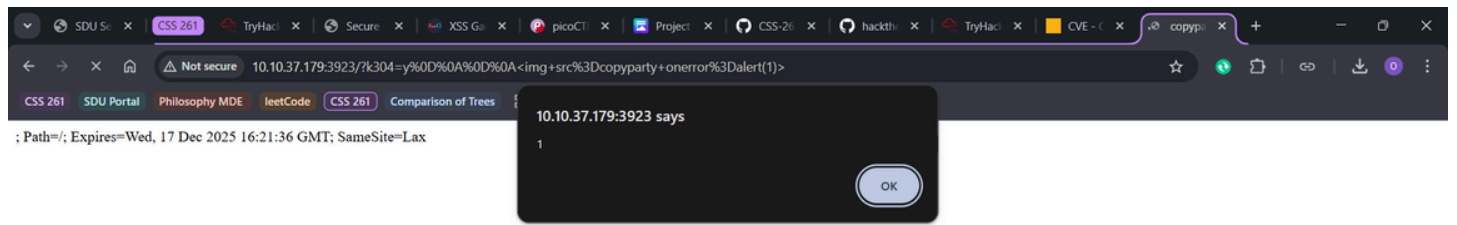
Read-Write access Login

c	File Name	Size	T	Date
-lxl-	cat.png	998 983	png	2024-02-08 11:25:59
-lxl-	dog.png	1 335 539	png	2024-02-08 11:26:04
-lxl-	lion.png	1 592 631	png	2024-02-08 11:26:09
-lxl-	music.png	2 330 394	png	2024-02-08 11:26:11
-lxl-	tiger.png	1 892 746	png	2024-02-08 11:26:16
-lxl-	violin.png	1 291 020	png	2024-02-08 11:26:19

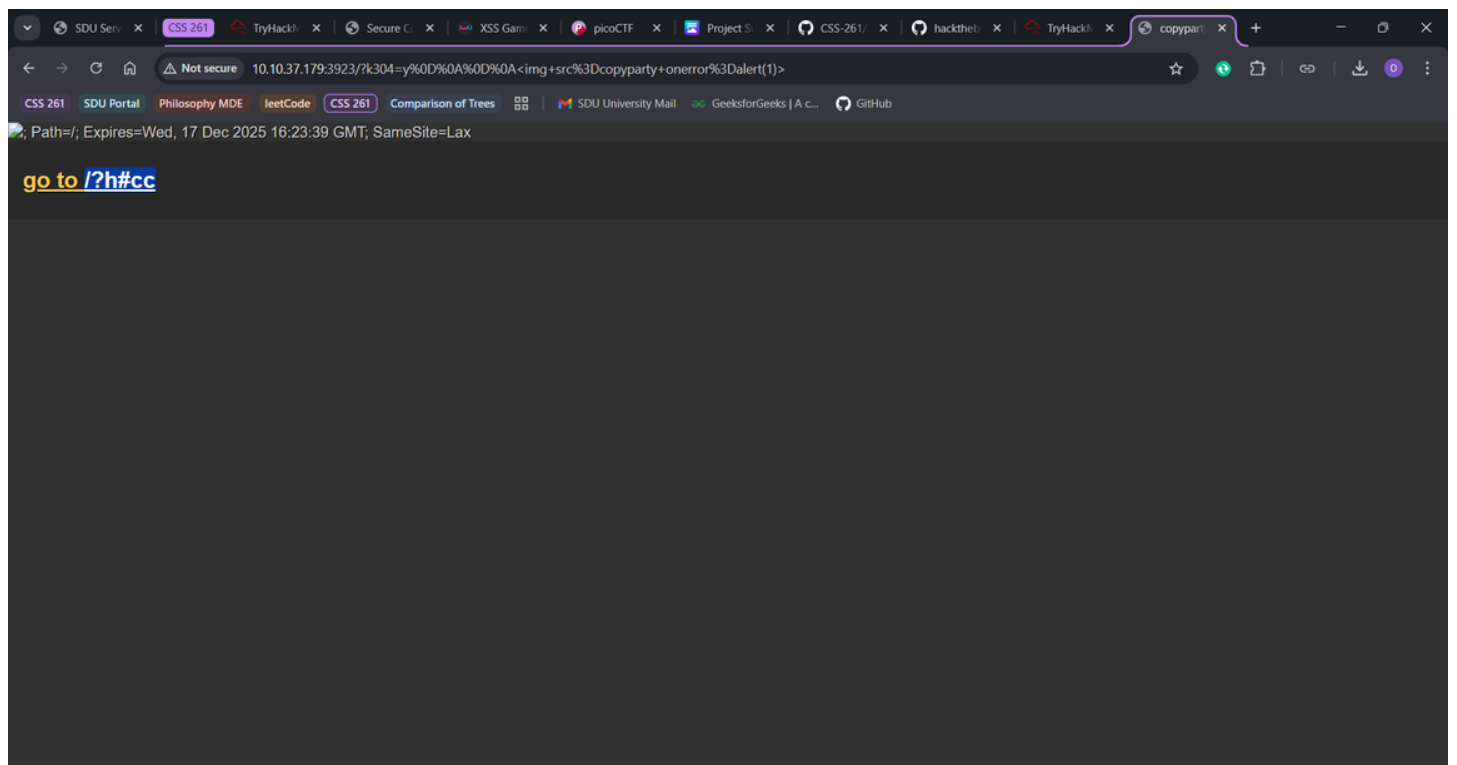
control-panel | prev / up / next

TT

By pasting this code, we get this error message, which means the site is vulnerable to xss attacks



And here we have our answer to the question



Done!

Start the attached VM by clicking on the **Start Machine** button to finish this task.

The attached VM runs a vulnerable version of **copyparty**. The discovered reflected XSS vulnerability has the ID **CVE-2023-38501**, and its exploit code is `?k304=y%3D%0A%00%0A%3Cimg+src%3Dcopyparty+onerror%3Dalert(1)%3E` which is the URL encoding of: `?k304=y <img src=copyparty onerror=alert(1)>`

The attached VM has the vulnerable server running at port 3923. You can reach the vulnerable server at `http://10.10.37.179:3923` via your AttackBox's browser.

Answer the questions below

What type of vulnerability is it?

Reflected XSS ✓ Correct Answer

Use the above exploit against the attached VM. What do you see on the second line after **go to**?

/?h#cc ✓ Correct Answer

Task 6 ☐ Stored XSS

Task 7 ☐ Vulnerable Web Application 2

Task 8 ☐ DOM-Based XSS

## Another theoretical question

Room progress (60%)

```
var sanitizedComment = HttpUtility.HtmlEncode(comment);
Response.Write(sanitizedComment);
}
reader.Close();
}
```

With a few changes, the code's security has improved. Stored-XSS is fixed by using the `HttpUtility.HtmlEncode()` method before displaying the `userComment` as part of a web page. (If you are curious, the SQL injection vulnerability is fixed by using parametrized SQL queries with values passed separately instead of building the SQL query via string concatenation. This can be achieved using the `Parameters.AddWithValue()` method in the `SqlCommand` objects.

Answer the questions below

What is the name of the JavaScript function we used to sanitize the user input before saving it?

sanitizeHtml() ✓ Correct Answer

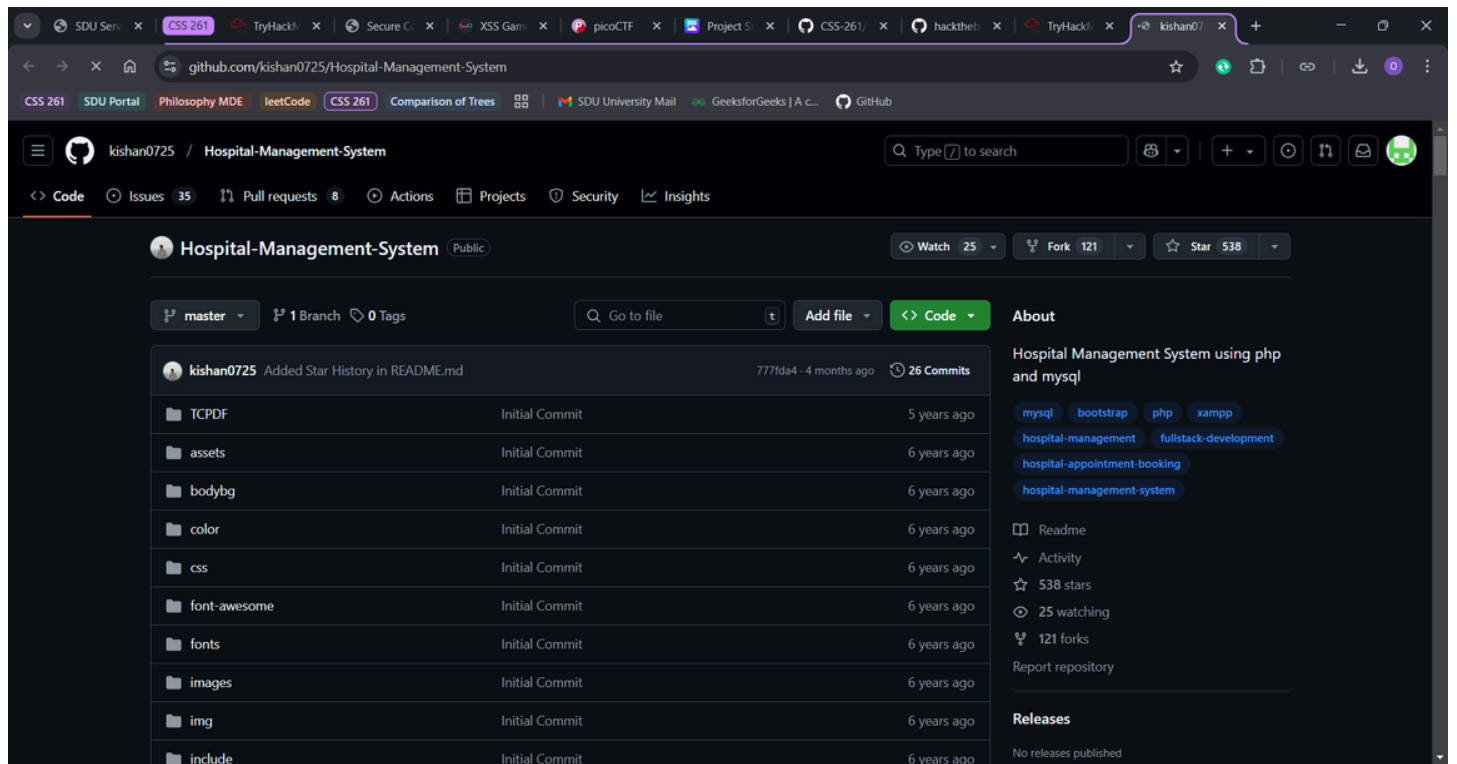
Which method did we call in ASP.Net C# to sanitize user input?

HttpUtility.HtmlEncode() ✓ Correct Answer

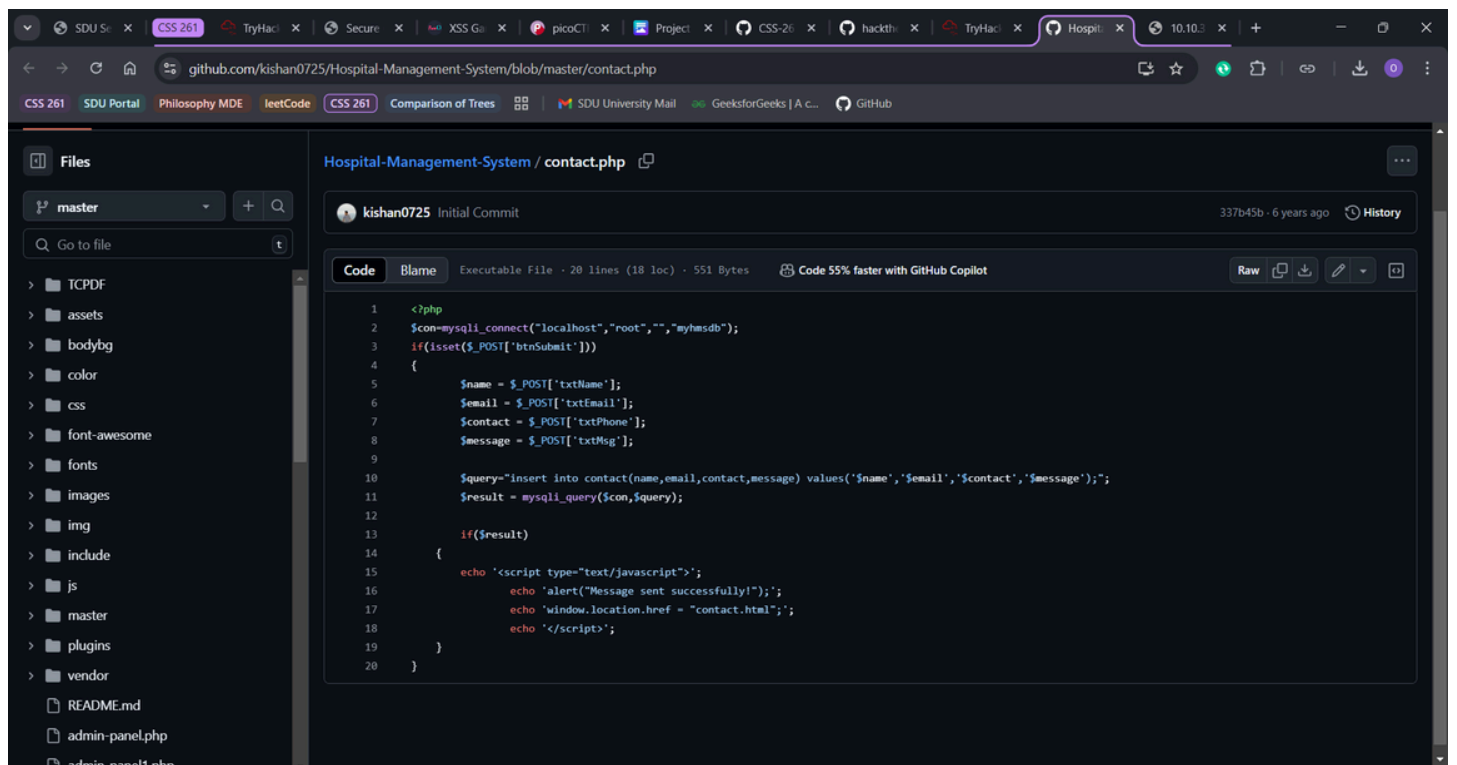
Task 7 ☐ Vulnerable Web Application 2

Task 8 ☐ DOM-Based XSS

In this part we are given this vulnerable app



All the information can be found here



By this, we understand more about how stored xss works



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `tryhackme.com/room/axss`. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The main content area displays a PHP code snippet for a contact form:

```
$email = $_POST['txtEmail'];
$contact = $_POST['txtPhone'];
$message = $_POST['txtMsg'];

$query="insert into contact(name,email,contact,message) values('$name','$email','$contact','$message')";

//...
}
```

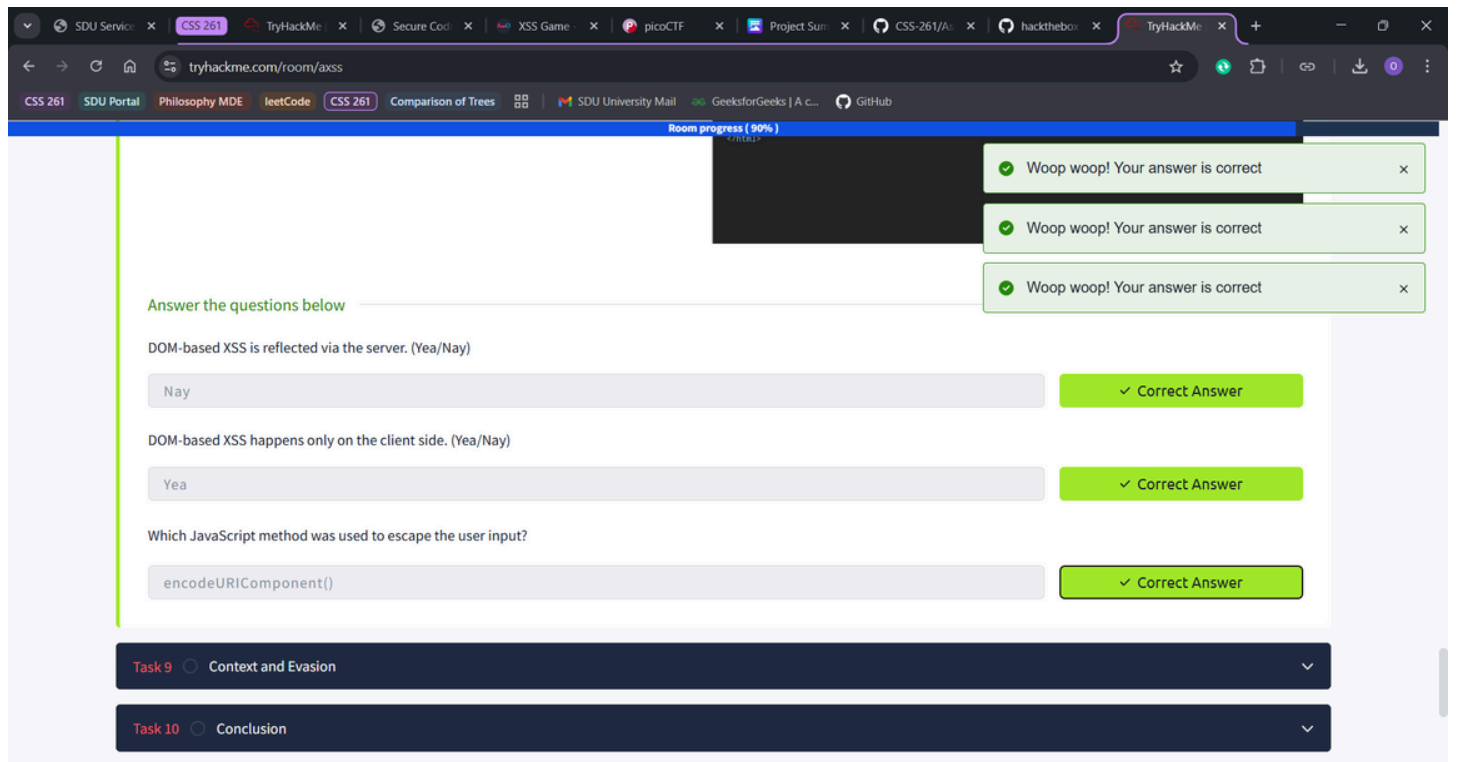
Two green notification boxes appear on the right side of the code editor, each stating "Woop woop! Your answer is correct". Below the code, the text "Answer the questions below" is followed by a question: "What type of vulnerability is it?". A text input field contains "Stored XSS", and a green button labeled "Correct Answer" is to its right. The next question is: "Go to the contact page and submit the following message `<script>alert(document.cookie)</script>`. Next, log in as the Receptionist. What is the name of the key from the displayed key-value pair?". A text input field contains "PHPSESSID", and a green button labeled "Correct Answer" is to its right. At the bottom, two task cards are visible: "Task 8 DOM-Based XSS" and "Task 9 Context and Evasion".

In next task, we are given example site, and some more information on dom-based xss

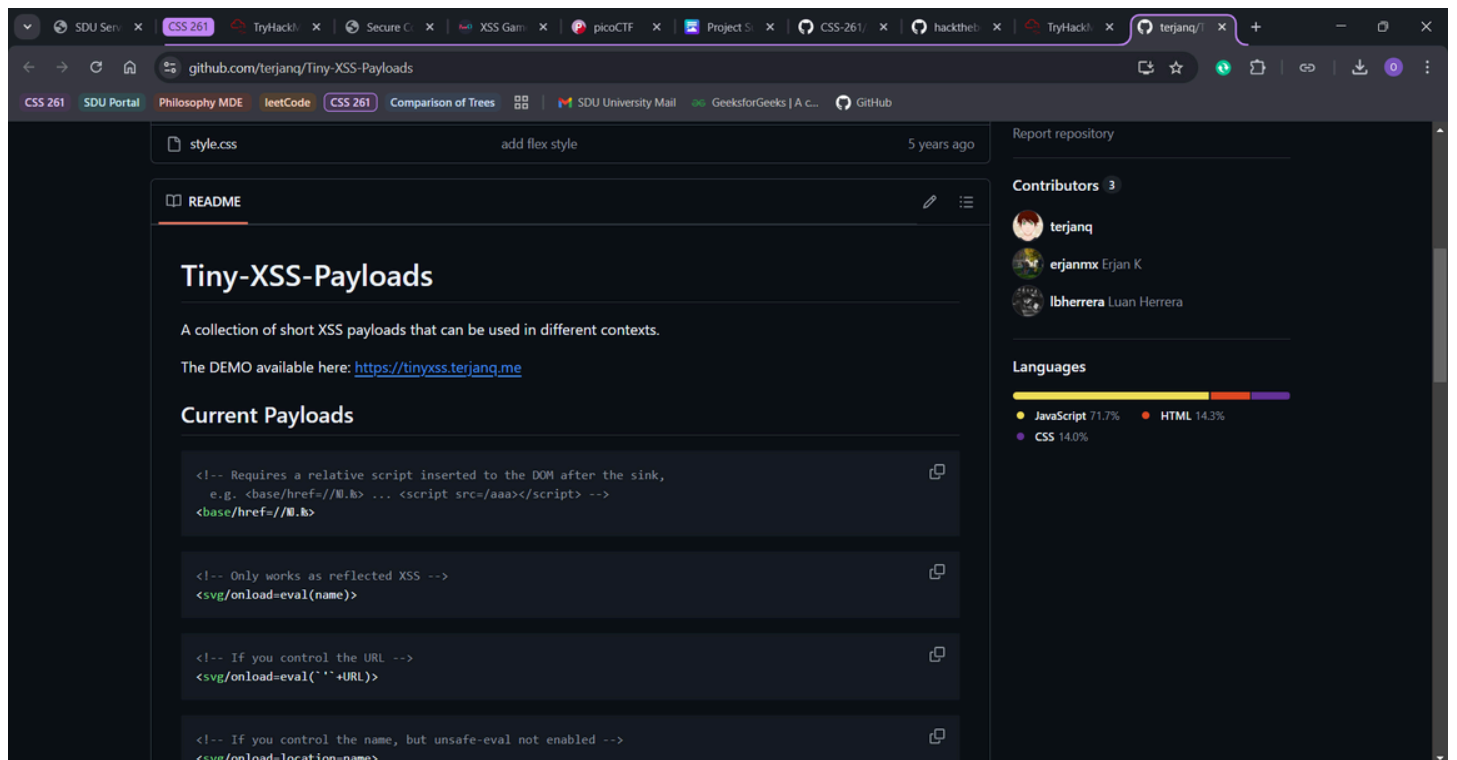
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `example.com`. The main content area displays a white box with the heading "Example Domain" and the text: "This domain is for use in illustrative examples in documents. You may use this domain in literature without prior coordination or asking for permission." Below this text is a link "More information...". The browser's developer tools are open on the right side, showing the "Elements" panel. The "body" element is selected, and its HTML structure is visible. The "Console" panel at the bottom shows a message: "not available".

After exploring, we answer to these questions

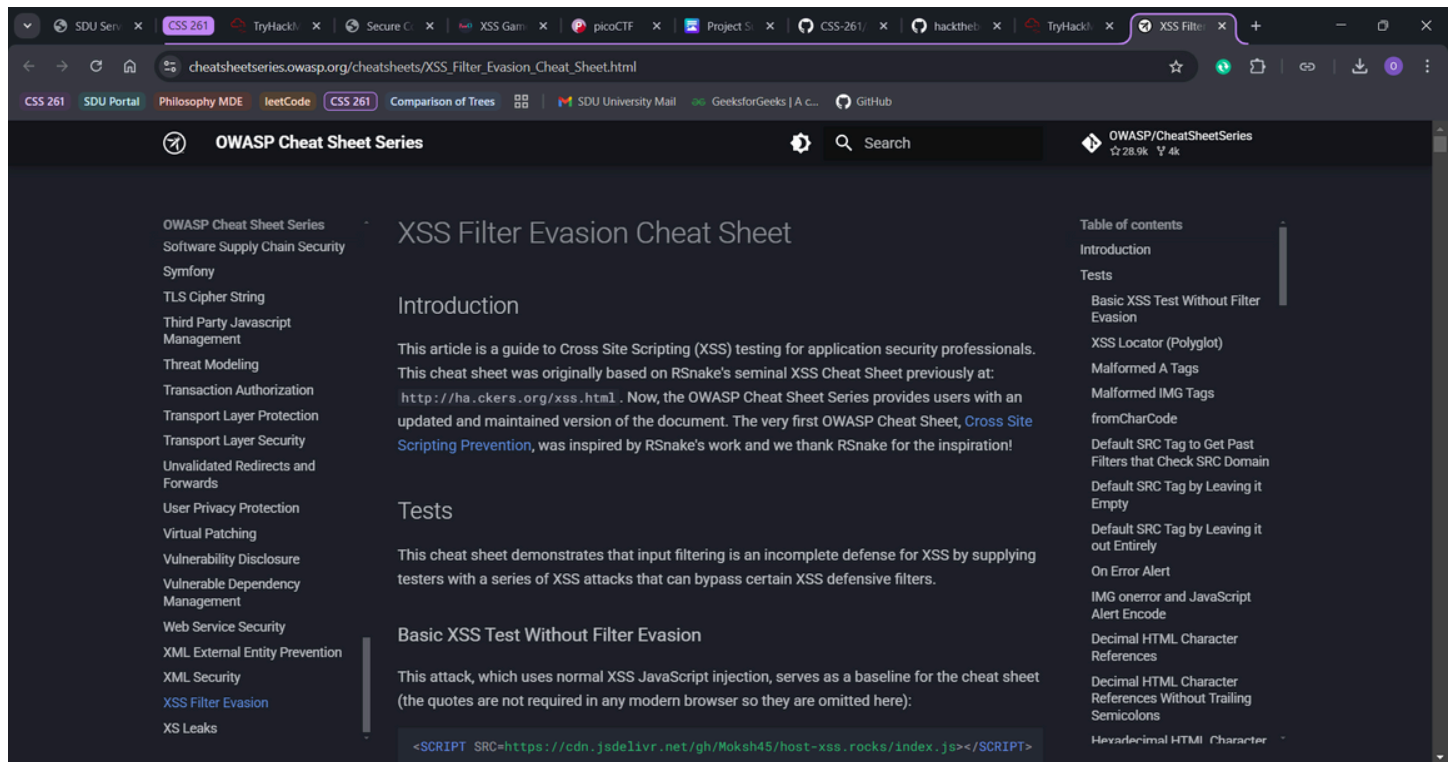




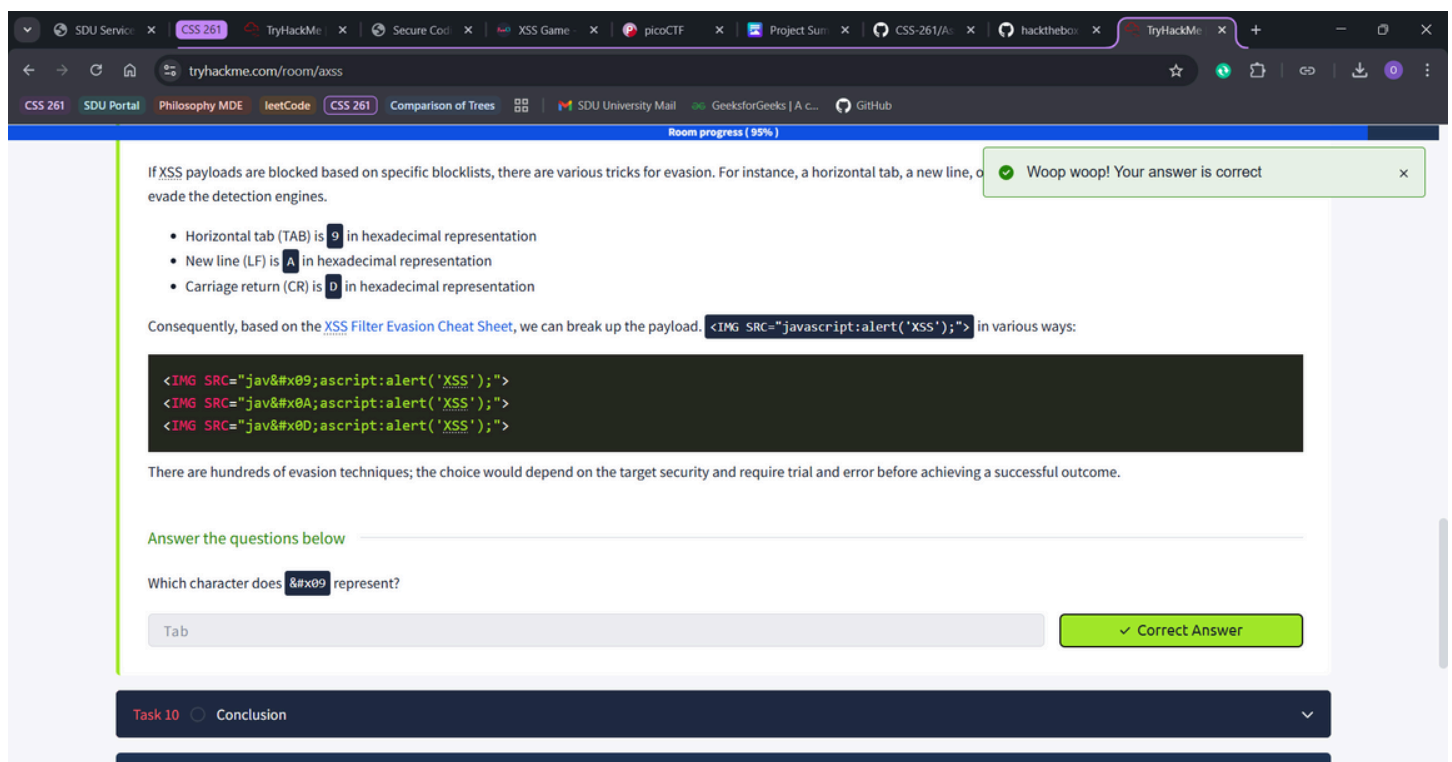
And in the last part, we learn about payloads, one of links leads to github, there is given a lot of information on xss payloads



Also this link to this site



So we answer to these question, and proceed more



Last question, and we already guessing that it's a dom-based xss that room used

tryhackme.com/room/axss

Room completed (100%)

Task 7 ✓ Vulnerable Web Application 2

Task 8 ✓ DOM-Based XSS

Task 9 ✓ Context and Evasion

Task 10 ✓ Conclusion

The purpose of this room is to give you a more in-depth understanding of the underlying workings of XSS scripts. We covered the causes and many remedies for XSS scripting. Understanding what is happening behind the scenes should give you an edge in exploring existing exploits and adapting them to your needs.

Answer the questions below

This room used a fictional static site to demonstrate one of the XSS vulnerabilities. Which XSS type was that?

DOM-based XSS

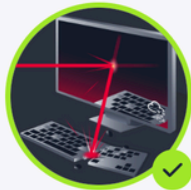
✓ Correct Answer

How likely are you to recommend this room to others?

And that's how we complete this room!

tryhackme.com/room/axss

✓ Woop woop! Your answer is correct



Congratulations on completing XSS!!! 🎉

Points earned	Completed tasks	Room type	Difficulty	Streak
🔥 160	📋 10	👤 Walkthrough	📶 Easy	🔥 3

🗉 Leave Feedback

Next