



XSS,SSTI & SQL injection

A03:2021-Injection

Injection meaning

User input is treated as code, not data

Routes and files

Files

- frontend.js
- Order.js
- auth-login-basic.html

Routes

- `http://localhost:5000/?message={js code}`
- `http://localhost:5000/?message={{nunjucks evaluates}}`
- `/v1/search/:filter/:query`

Zap tool analysis

The screenshot displays the ZAP tool interface, which is used for web security testing. The top menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Analyse, Report, Tools, Import, Export, Online, and Help. The main window is divided into several panes:

- Left Pane:** Shows a tree view of sites and bundles. The 'bundles' section is expanded, showing a GET request for 'startup.json.mozl4' from 'https://buttons.github.io'.
- Top Right Pane:** Displays the response of the selected request. It shows an HTTP 200 OK status, 'X-Powered-By: Express', and a 'Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8'. The body of the response is an HTML document titled 'Sneat - Bootstrap 5 HTML Admin Template - Pro | v1.0.0'.
- Bottom Left Pane:** Shows a list of alerts. The 'Cross Site Scripting (DOM Based)' alert is selected, showing a risk level of 'High' and a confidence level of 'High'. The attack payload is '<script>alert(5397)</script>'. The source is identified as 'Active (40026 - Cross Site Scripting (DOM Based))'.
- Bottom Right Pane:** Provides a detailed description of the selected alert, explaining that Cross-site Scripting (XSS) is an attack technique that involves echoing attacker-supplied code into a user's browser instance. It also includes 'Other Info' about the steps taken to trigger the DOM XSS.

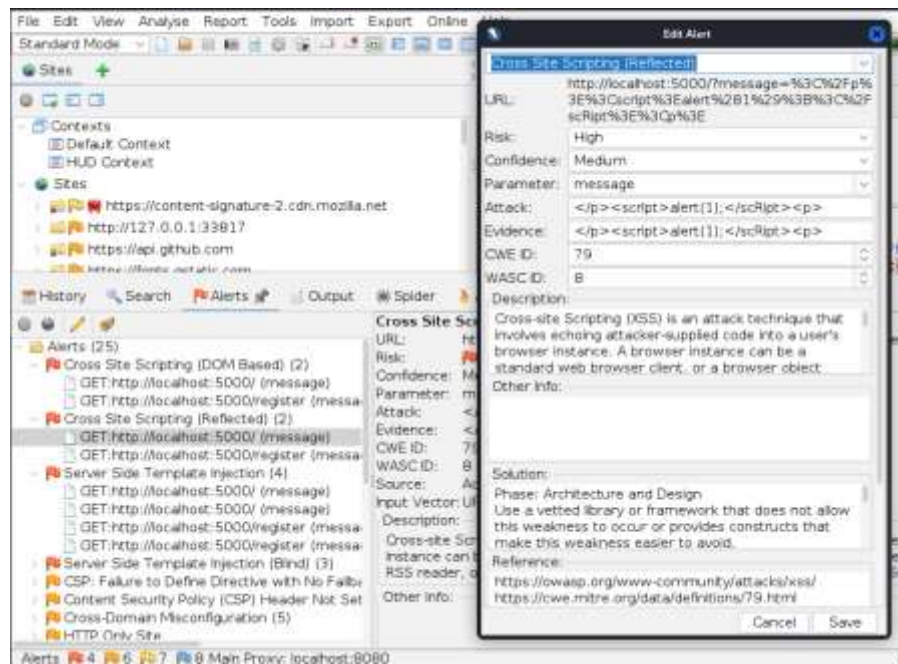
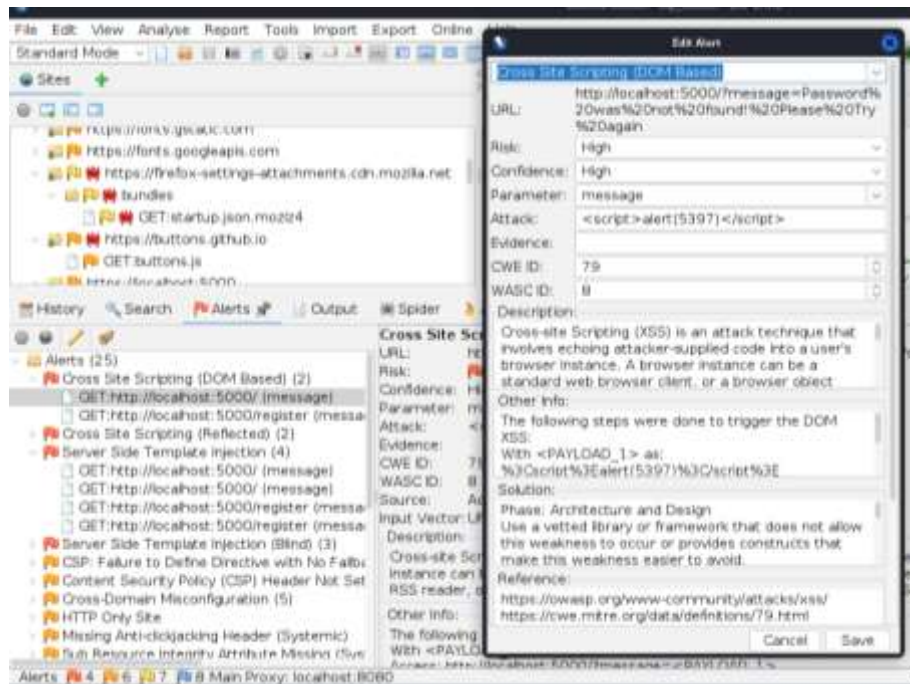
The bottom status bar indicates the current status of the tool, showing various icons and the text 'Alerts: 4 6 7 8 Main Proxy: localhost:8080'.

The screenshot shows the Burp Suite interface with a 'Server Side Template Injection' alert. The alert details are as follows:

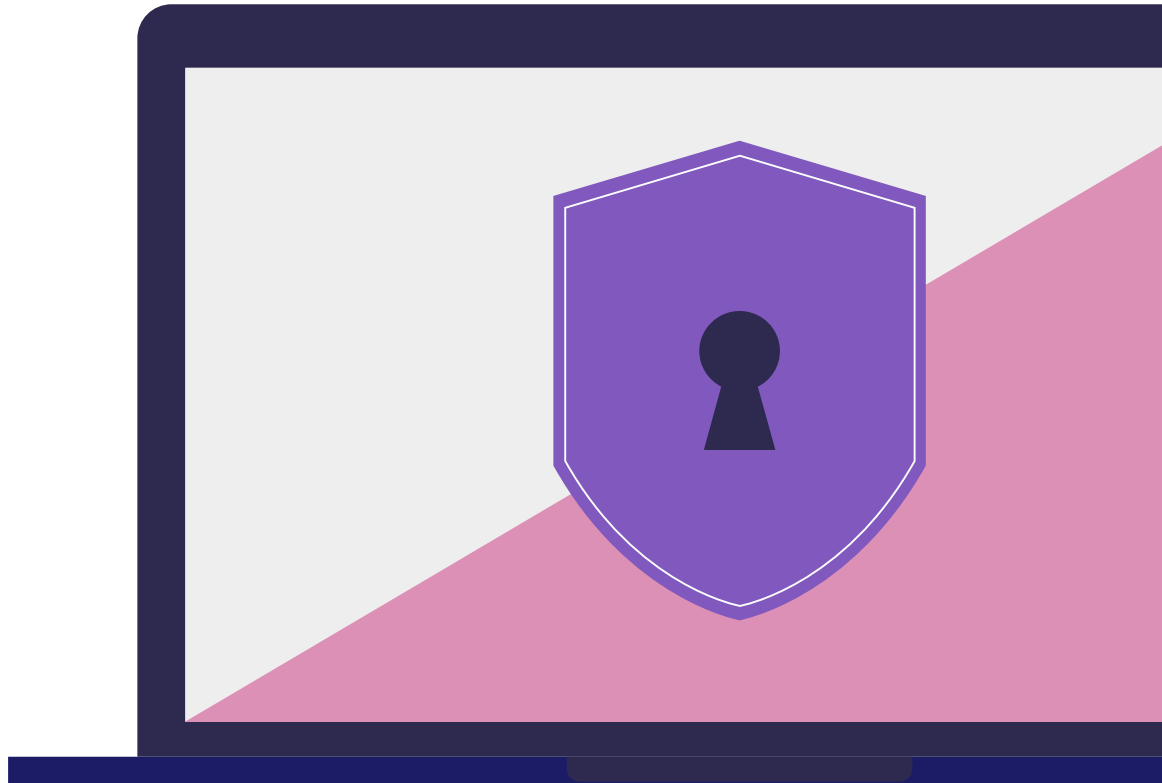
- URL:** http://localhost:5000/?message=z%7B%7B5882*4386%7D%7D%7D
- Risk:** High
- Confidence:** High
- Parameter:** message
- Attack:** z{ (5882*4386) }z
- Evidence:**
- CWE ID:** 1336
- WASC ID:** 20
- Description:** When the user input is inserted in the template instead of being used as argument in rendering is evaluated by the template engine. Depending on the template engine it can lead to remote code execution.
- Other Info:** Proof found at [http://localhost:5000/?message=Password%20was%20not%20found%20Please%20Try%20again]
content: Instead of inserting the user input in the template, use it as rendering argument.
- Reference:** https://portswigger.net/research/server-side-template-injection



Zap tool analysis xss



XSS



vulnerable code

```
const nunjucks = require('nunjucks');  
const message = req.query.message || "Please log in to continue";  
rendered = nunjucks.renderString(message);  
res.render('user.html',  
  {message : rendered}  
);
```


exploitation

you could render any js code on the website using this url route:

- <http://localhost:5000/?message=<script>.....</script>>

explanation

The application is vulnerable to both Reflected Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) and Server-Side Template Injection (SSTI). User-controlled input is passed directly to `nunjucks.renderString()` and rendered without sanitization. This allows attackers to execute arbitrary JavaScript in the browser and arbitrary commands on the server, leading to Remote Code Execution.

Semgrep rule

```
rules:  
  - id: xss-vuln  
    message: "XSS: User input in template without escaping"  
    severity: HIGH  
    languages: [javascript]  
    pattern: 'res.render( ... , {message: $INPUT})'
```

Fixes

```
const nunjucks = require('nunjucks');  
const message = req.query.message || "Please log in to continue";  
rendered = nunjucks.renderString(message);  
res.render('user.html',  
  {message : rendered}  
);
```



```
const message = req.query.message || "Please log in to continue"  
const escapeHtml = require('escape-html');  
res.render('user.html', {message: escapeHtml(message)});
```

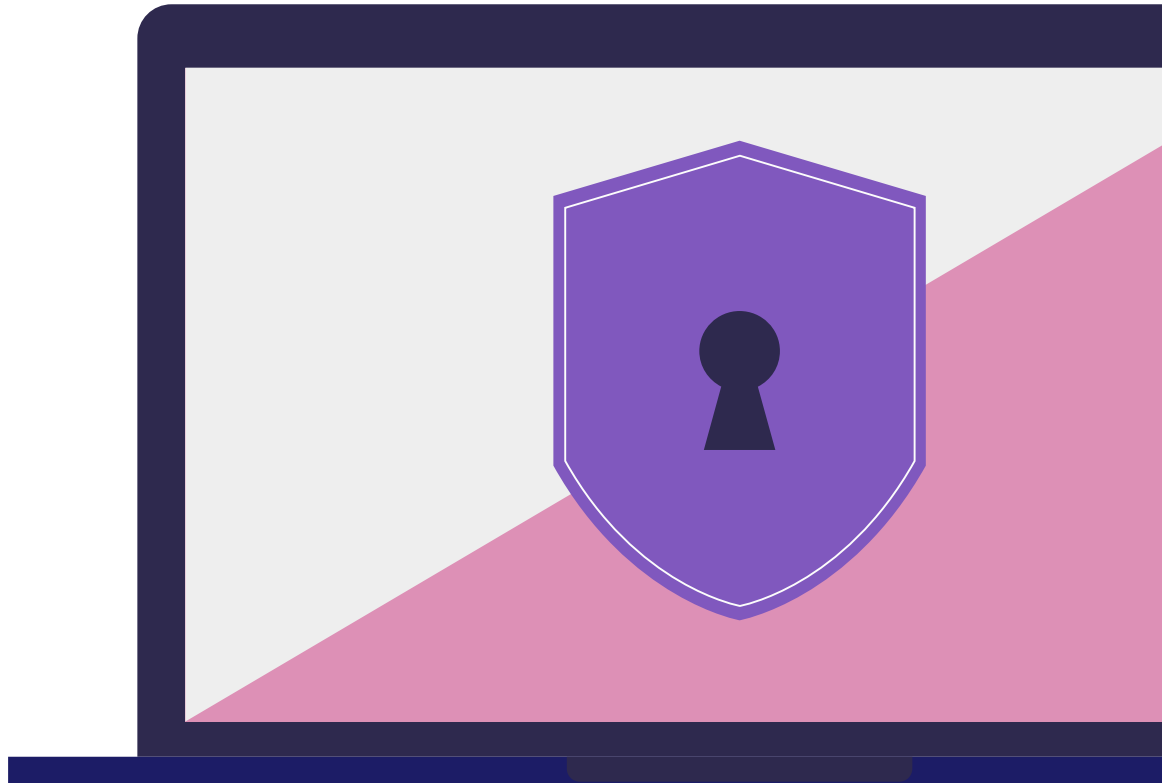
Fixes

```
<h4 class="mb-2">Welcome to Sneat! 🖐️</h4>  
  <p class="mb-4">{{message | safe}}</p>  
<form id="formAuthentication" class="mb-3" action="index.html" method="POST">
```



```
<h4 class="mb-2">Welcome to Sneat! 🖐️</h4>  
  <p class="mb-4">{{message}}</p>  
<form id="formAuthentication" class="mb-3" action="index.html" method="POST">
```

SSTI



vulnerable code

```
const nunjucks = require('nunjucks');  
const message = req.query.message || "Please log in to continue";  
rendered = nunjucks.renderString(message);  
res.render('user.html',  
  {message : rendered}  
);
```

exploitation

you could render any nunjucks evaluates to execute it on server side using this url route:

- `http://localhost:5000/?message={{nunjucks evaluates}}`

explanation

The application is vulnerable to both Reflected Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) and Server-Side Template Injection (SSTI). User-controlled input is passed directly to `nunjucks.renderString()` and rendered without sanitization. This allows attackers to execute arbitrary JavaScript in the browser and arbitrary commands on the server, leading to Remote Code Execution.

Semgrep rule

```
1 rules:
2   - id: nunjucks-ssti-vulnerability
3     message: SSTI Detected
4     severity: CRITICAL
5     languages: [javascript]
6     pattern: 'nunjucks.renderString($VAR)'
7
8
9
```

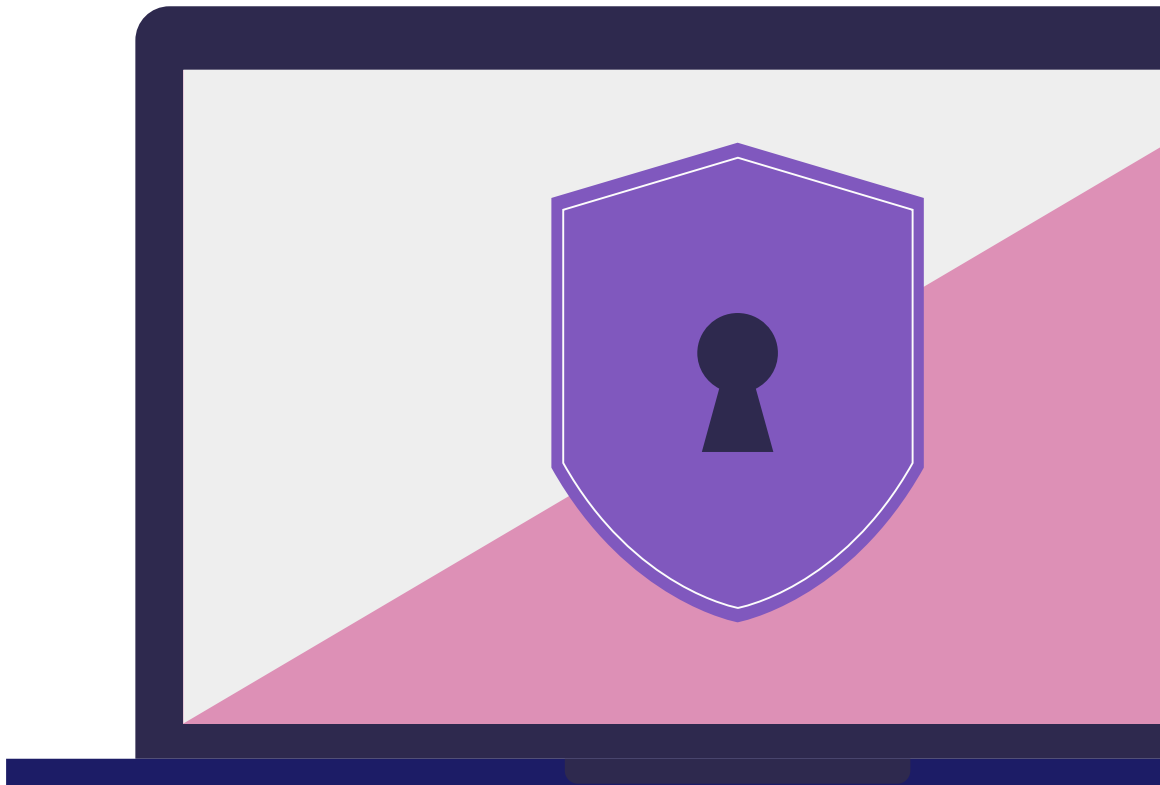

Fixes

```
const nunjucks = require('nunjucks');  
const message = req.query.message || "Please log in to continue";  
rendered = nunjucks.renderString(message);  
res.render('user.html',  
  {message : rendered}  
);
```



```
const message = req.query.message || "Please log in to continue"  
const escapeHtml = require('escape-html');  
res.render('user.html', {message: escapeHtml(message)});
```

SQL injection



vulnerable code

```
app.get('/v1/search/:filter/:query', (req, res) => {
  const filter = req.params.filter
  const query = req.params.query
  const sql = "SELECT * FROM beers WHERE "+filter+" = '"+query+"'";

  const beers = db.sequelize.query(sql, { type: 'RAW' }).then(beers => {
    res.status(200).send(beers);
  }).catch(function (err) {
    res.status(501).send("error, query failed: "+err)
  })
});
```

exploitation

```
sqlmap -u "http://localhost:5000/v1/search/id/1*" --batch --dump-all
```

explanation

User controls SQL structure because Query is built via string concatenation, No sanitization and No parameter binding

Semgrep rule

```
rules:  
- id: sql-injection  
  message: SQL INJECTION DETECTED  
  severity: CRITICAL  
  languages: [javascript]  
  pattern: |  
    $SQL = $A + $B
```

fixes

```
app.get('/v1/search/:filter/:query', (req,res) =>{
  const filter = req.params.filter
  const query = req.params.query
  const sql = "SELECT * FROM beers WHERE "+filter+" = '"+query+"'";

  const beers = db.sequelize.query(sql, { type: 'RAW' }).then(beers => {
    res.status(200).send(beers);
  }).catch(function (err) {
    res.status(501).send("error, query failed: "+err)
  })
});
```



```
app.get('/v1/search/:filter/:query', async (req, res) => {
  const { filter, query } = req.params;

  const allowedFilters = ['id', 'name', 'price', 'stock', 'currency'];

  if (!allowedFilters.includes(filter)) {
    return res.status(400).json({ error: 'Invalid filter' });
  }

  try {
    const beers = await db.beer.findAll({
      where: {
        [filter]: query
      }
    });

    res.json(beers);
  } catch (err) {
    console.error(err);
    res.status(500).json({ error: 'Database error' });
  }
});
```