



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 shows the ZAP tool interface in Standard Mode. The top navigation bar includes File, Edit, View, Analyse, Report, Tools, Import, Export, Online, and Help. The toolbar below has icons for various functions like Site Scan, Request, Response, and Spider.

The left sidebar displays a tree view of the current session, which includes URLs such as <https://unir00ls.gscalc.com>, <https://fonts.googleapis.com>, <https://firefox-settings-attachments.cdn.mozilla.net>, <https://buttons.github.io>, and <http://localhost:5000>.

The main pane shows a request-response cycle. The Request tab displays the following headers:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
X-Powered-By: Express
Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8
Content-Length: 11012
ETag: W/"2b04-11TSABY3KKT5fkCelejuWe9ut/c"
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

The Response tab shows the content of the page, which is identified as "Sneat - Bootstrap 5 HTML Admin Template - Pro | v1.0.0".

The bottom section is the Alerts panel, which lists 25 findings:

- Cross Site Scripting (DOM Based) (2)
- Cross Site Scripting (Reflected) (2)
- Server Side Template Injection (4)
- Server Side Template Injection (Blind) (3)
- CSP: Failure to Define Directive with No Fallback (1)
- Content Security Policy (CSP) Header Not Set (1)
- Cross-Domain Misconfiguration (5)
- HTTP Only Site (1)
- Missing Anti-clickjacking Header (Systemic) (1)
- Sub Resource Integrity Attribute Missing (Systemic) (1)
- Cookie No HttpOnly Flag (Systemic) (1)
- Cross-Domain JavaScript Source File Inclusion (1)
- Server Leaks Information via "X-Powered-By" (1)
- Server Leaks Version Information via "Server" (1)
- Strict-Transport-Security Header Not Set (4)
- Timestamp Deriving - Unix (5)

A detailed alert entry for "Cross Site Scripting (DOM Based)" is expanded, showing the following details:

URL:	http://localhost:5000/?message=%3Cscript%3Ealert(5397)%3C/script%3E
Risk:	High
Confidence:	High
Parameter:	message
Attack:	<script>alert(5397)</script>
Evidence:	
CWE ID:	79
WASC ID:	8
Source:	Active (40026 - Cross Site Scripting (DOM Based))
Input Vector:	URL Query String
Description:	Cross-site Scripting (XSS) is an attack technique that involves echoing attacker-supplied code into a user's browser instance. A browser instance can be a standard web browser client, or a browser object embedded in a software product such as the browser within WinAmp, an RSS reader, or an email client. The code itself is usually written in HTML/Javascript, but may also extend to VBScript, ActiveX, Java, Flash, or
Other Info:	The following steps were done to trigger the DOM XSS: With <PAYLOAD_1> as: %3Cscript%3Ealert(5397)%3C/script%3E Access: http://localhost:5000/?message=<PAYLOAD_1>

At the bottom, the status bar shows "Current Status" with various indicators (green, yellow, red) and the proxy configuration "Main Proxy: localhost:8080".

Zap tool analysis ssti

File Edit View Analyse Report Tools Import Export Online Standard Mode

Sites +

- http://localhost:8080/zap2020.com
- https://fonts.googleapis.com
- https://firefox-settings-attachments.cdn.mozilla.net/bundles
- GET:startup.json.mozjs4
- https://buttons.github.io
- GET:buttons.js
- https://buttondown.knun

History Search Alerts Spider Output

Alerts (25)

- Cross Site Scripting (DOM Based) (2)
 - GET: http://localhost:5000/ (message)
 - GET: http://localhost:5000/register (message)
- Cross Site Scripting (Reflected) (2)
- Server Side Template Injection (4)
 - GET: http://localhost:5000/ (message)
 - GET: http://localhost:5000/ (message)
 - GET: http://localhost:5000/register (message)
 - GET: http://localhost:5000/register (message)
- Server Side Template Injection (Blind) (3)
- CSP: Failure to Define Directive with No Fails
- Content Security Policy (CSP) Header Not Set
- Cross-Domain Misconfiguration (5)
- HTTP Only Site
- Missing Anti-clickjacking Header (Systemic)
- Rich Resource Integrity Attribute Missing (5)

Alerts 4 6 7 8 Main Proxy: localhost:8080

Edit Alert

Server Side Template Injector

URL: http://localhost:5000/register?message=2%7B%7B1695*8234%7D%7Dz

Risk: High

Confidence: High

Parameter: message

Attack: \${({1695*8234})}

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.

Other Info:

Proof found at [http://localhost:5000/register?message=Email%40cullen%27%20be%20validated,%20please%20try%20again.] content:

Solution:

Instead of inserting the user input in the template, use it as rendering argument.

Reference:

https://portswigger.net/research/server-side-template-injection

Cancel Save

Standard Mode

Sites +

- http://localhost:8080/zap2020.com
- https://fonts.googleapis.com
- https://firefox-settings-attachments.cdn.mozilla.net/bundles
- GET:startup.json.mozjs4
- https://buttons.github.io
- GET:buttons.js
- https://buttondown.knun

History Search Alerts Spider Output

Alerts (25)

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- Rich Resource Integrity Attribute Missing (5)

Alerts 4 6 7 8 Main Proxy: localhost:8080

64 Alert

Server Side Template Injector

URL: http://localhost:5000/register?message=2%7B%7B1695*8234%7D%7Dz

Risk: High

Confidence: High

Parameter: message

Attack: \${({1695*8234})}

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.

Other Info:

Proof found at [http://localhost:5000/register?message=Email%40cullen%27%20be%20validated,%20please%20try%20again.] content:

Solution:

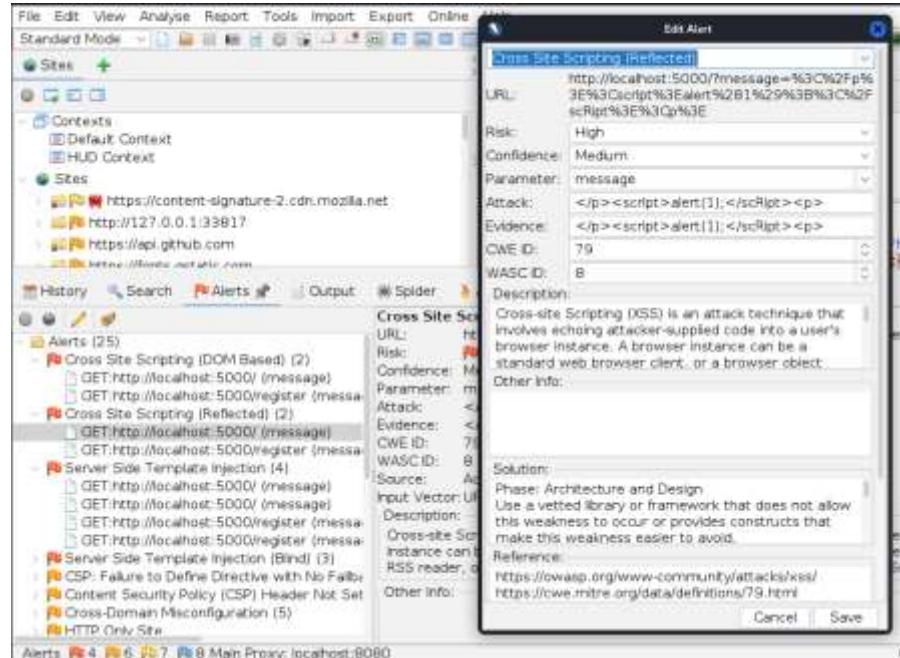
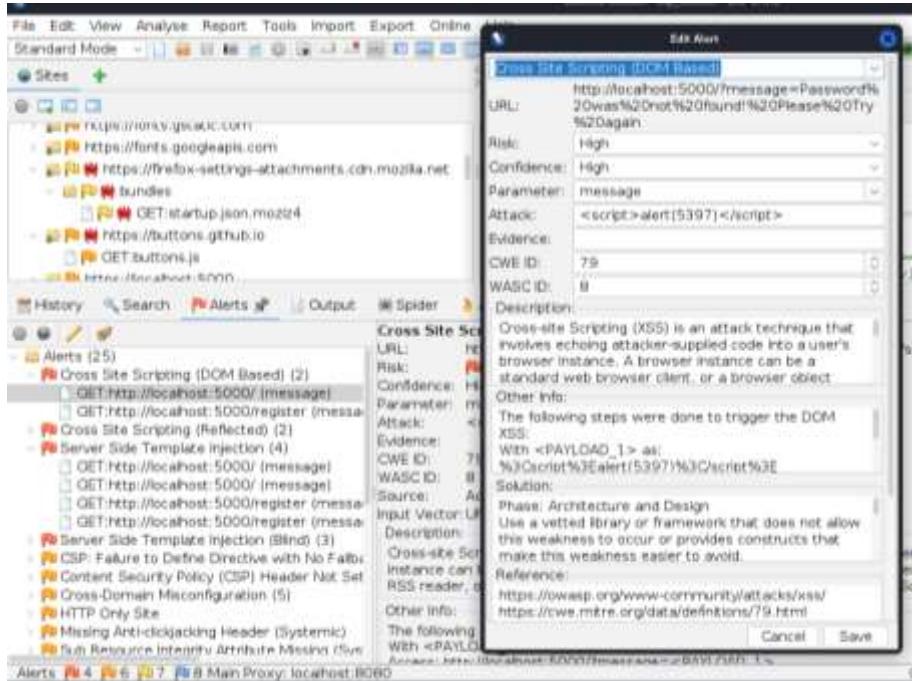
Instead of inserting the user input in the template, use it as rendering argument.

Reference:

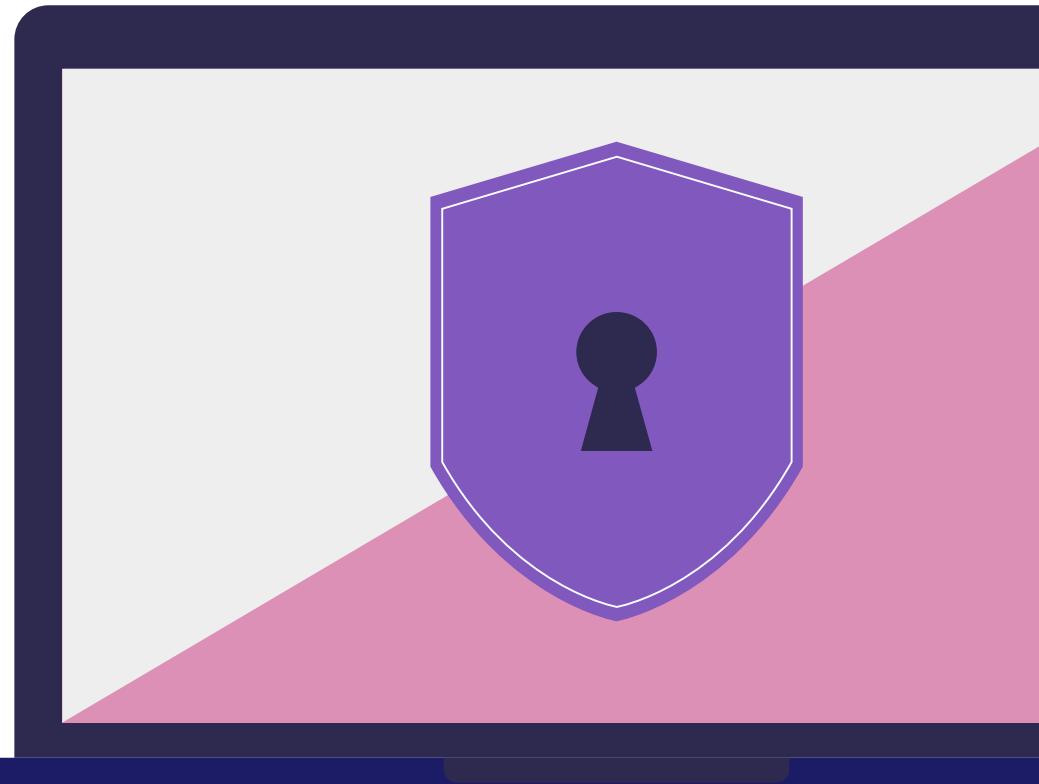
https://portswigger.net/research/server-side-template-injection

Cancel Save

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' });
  }
});
```