

XSS Assignment

Question 1 *Cross-site not scripting* ()

Consider a simple web messaging service. You receive messages from other users. The page shows all messages sent to you. Its HTML looks like this:

Mallory: Do you have time for a conference call?

Steam: Your account verification code is 86423

Mallory: Where are you? This is important!!!

Steam: Thank you for your purchase

``

The user is off buying video games from Steam, while Mallory is trying to get ahold of them.

Users can include **arbitrary HTML code** messages and it will be concatenated into the page, **unsanitized**. Sounds crazy, doesn't it? However, they have a magical technique that prevents *any* JavaScript code from running. Period.

- (a) Discuss what an attacker could do to snoop on another user's messages. What specially crafted messages could Mallory have sent to steal this user's account verification code?
- (b) Keeping in mind the attack you constructed in the previous part, what is a defense that can prevent against it?