

XSS





Goals

- Name 2 flavors of XSS attack
- Describe how to mitigate





Roadmap

1. Basics
2. Server-Side XSS
3. DOM-Based XSS





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Basics





What is Cross-Site Scripting

- Attacker sneaks a malicious script into a web app
- Script runs on other users when they run the app^{*}
- Attacker can access
 - Cookies
 - Session tokens
 - Misc Data



What's the Worst that Can Happen

- The malicious script has access to everything on the app
- Arbitrarily manipulate the DOM



Possibly Worse

- Impersonate the user in interacting with Web APIs
 - Access sensitive data
 - Break stuff
- Access HTML5 APIs:
 - Geolocation
 - Webcam / mic



Famous Examples

- Samy broke MySpace in 2005
- Lots more



XSS Flavors

1. **Reflected** - Non-persistent
2. **Self-XSS** - User tricked into pasting malicious code into console
3. **Server-side** - aka 'persistent' Sneak content into a
4. **DOM-Based** - Exploits SPA vulnerabilities



Reflected XSS

- Old-school
- Usually manipulates a query string
- Popular for phishing
- **Solution:** Don't trust query parameters



Reflected XSS Vulnerability

```
1 <body>
2   <h1>Welcome Home, <span id='greeting'>Loading...</span></h1>
3 </body>
4 <script>
5   const queryString = location.search;
6   const urlParams = new URLSearchParams(queryString);
7   const userName = urlParams.get('user');
8   document.getElementById('userName').innerHTML= userName || 'Anonymous';
9 </script>
```



Not Just `<script>` Elements

- Injected script elements are often blocked by the browser
- Malformed tags can work better:
 - ``
- Also events:
 - ``



Variation: Self-XSS

Trick user into pasting something into the console





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Server-Side XSS



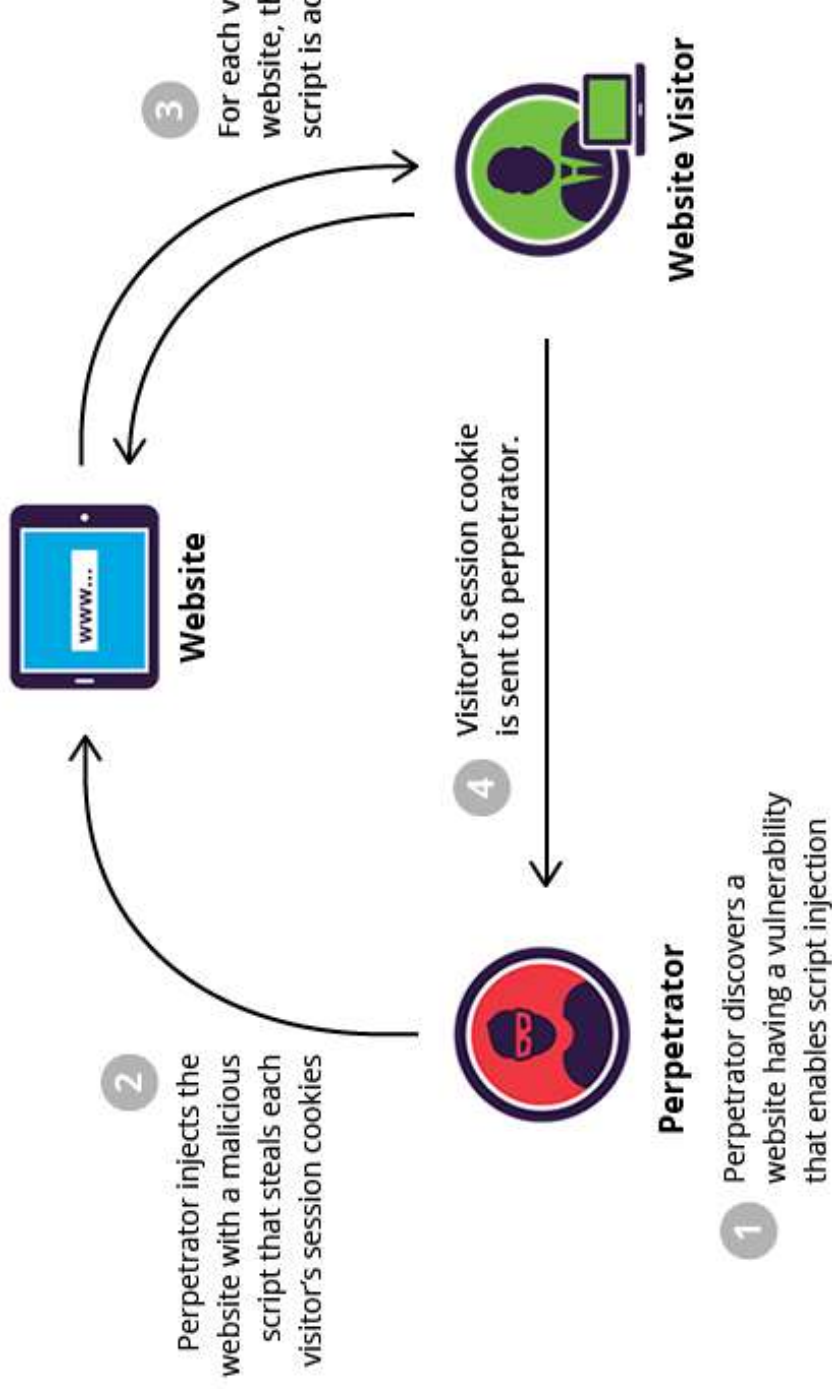


Details

- Happens with apps containing user-generated content
 - Forums
 - Content Management Systems
- Most dangerous because the script runs on everyone's browser
- SPAs are affected too!



Server-side Example





XSS Mitigation

- Encode output data
- Razor engine does this automatically
- Angular does too
- *But this is still possible to screw up*



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DOM-Based XSS





Basics

- Doesn't involve trip to server
- Exploits vulnerabilities in
 - SPA Frameworks
 - Your app
- Filter potentially scary user input



Angular's XSS Approach

- Trusts no input
- Automatically sanitizes and escapes untrusted values
- Opt-out with DOMSanitizer



Example: LoginComponent

```
1 export class LoginInfoComponent {  
2   @Input()  
3   contents='';  
4 }
```




Sanitized: Template Expression

```
1 <h2>Template Expression:</h2>  
2 <div>{{contents}}</div>
```



Escaped: InnerHTML

- DOMSanitizer runs automatically

```
1 <h2>InnerHTML binding:</h2>  
2 <div [innerHTML]='contents'></div>
```

Demo: Bad Sanitation





Use Case For Opting Out

- Dynamic Font Imports



Best Practices

- Keep current with Angular releases
- Don't modify your copy of Angular
- Avoid Angular APIs marked in the documentation as *Risk*.
- Avoid raw DOM manipulation



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Review

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