

XSS and CSRF attacks

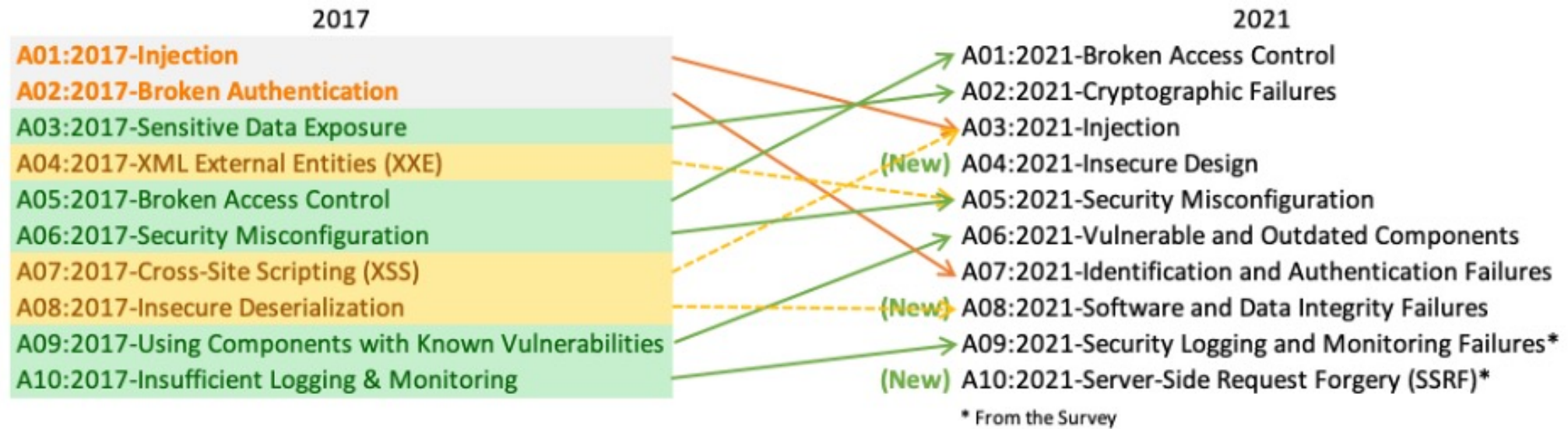
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User Input = EVIL

Catch-22

<https://www.thecatch.cz/>

OWASP TOP 10



Cross-Site Scripting - XSS

- Malicious script injected into benign website
- 3 types
 - Reflected XSS
 - Stored XSS
 - DOM based XSS



Same-origin policy

- Security mechanism restricting how items are loaded to a website
- Prevents malicious script accessing resources on other origins (e.g. logged in Facebook in different session)
- Can be modified to allow specific exceptions

URL	Outcome	Reason
<code>http://store.company.com/dir2/other.html</code>	Same origin	Only the path differs
<code>http://store.company.com/dir/inner/another.html</code>	Same origin	Only the path differs
<code>https://store.company.com/page.html</code>	Failure	Different protocol
<code>http://store.company.com:81/dir/page.html</code>	Failure	Different port (<code>http://</code> is port 80 by default)
<code>http://news.company.com/dir/page.html</code>	Failure	Different host

[source](#)

Dangers of XSS

- it can lead to:
 - account impersonation
 - observing user behaviour
 - loading external content
 - stealing sensitive data
 - ... and more

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Dangers of XSS

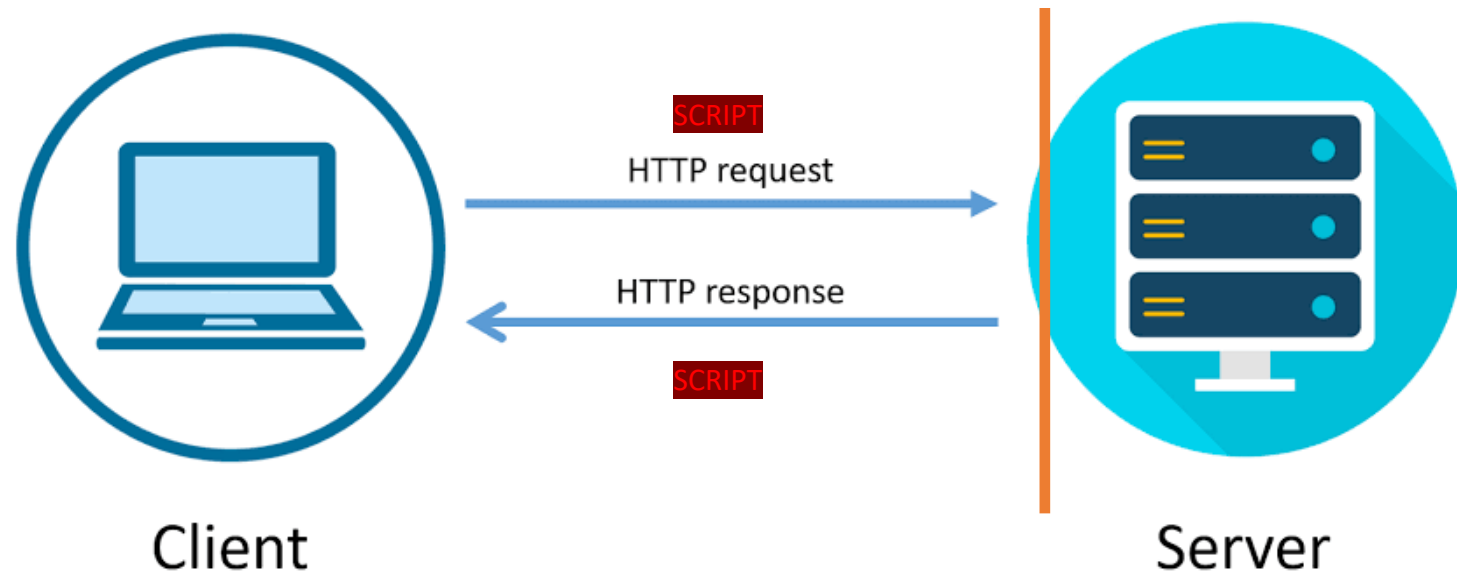
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 - loading external content -> adds, coin miners
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 - ... and more

Dangers of XSS

- it can lead to:
 - account impersonation -> stealing cookies, secrets and usernames
 - observing user behaviour -> what actions he takes
 - loading external content -> adds, coin miners
 - stealing sensitive data -> exfiltrating what he views
 - ... and more

Reflected XSS

- the script is reflected of the website to the browser
- script is not stored on the server



Reflected XSS

Request:

`https://evil.com/search?query=ponozky`

Returns:

`<p> You have queried: ponozky </p>`

What will happen:

`https://evil.com/search?query=<script>alert (XSS) <\script>`

Reflected XSS

Request:

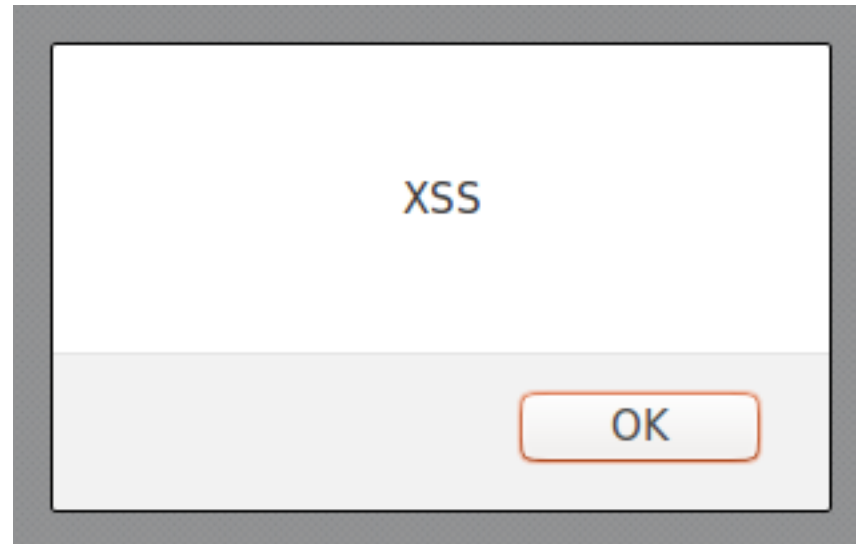
`https://evil.com/search?query=ponozky`

Returns:

`<p> You have queried: ponozky </p>`

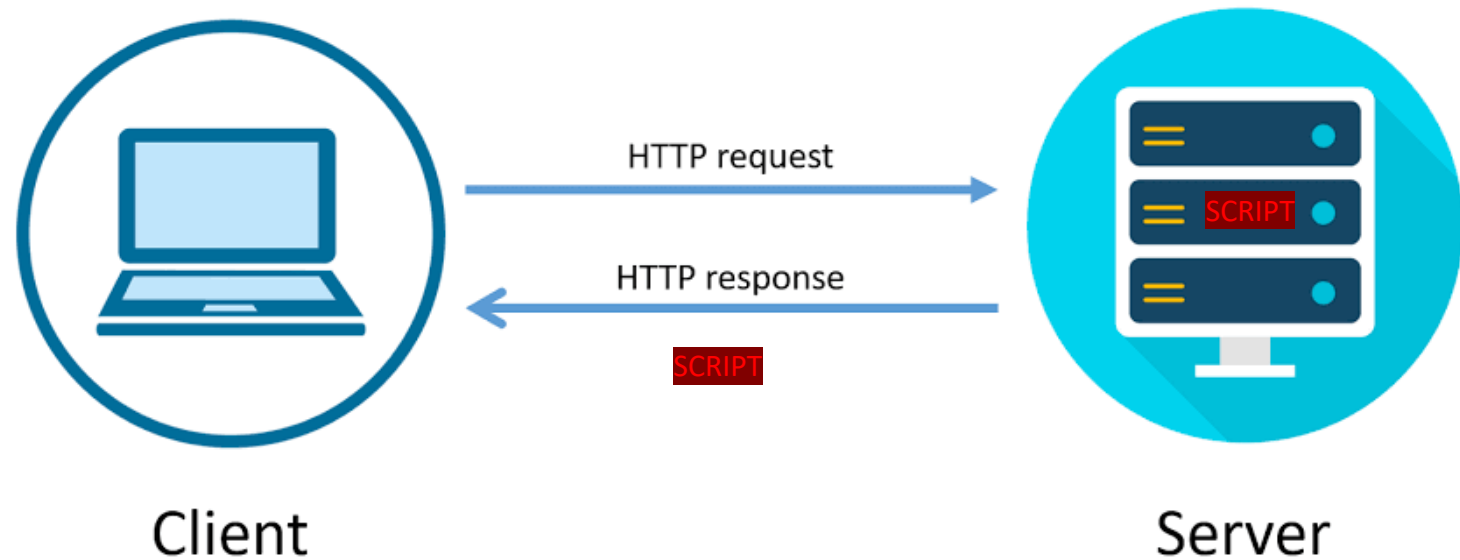
What will happen:

`https://evil.com/search?query=<script>alert(XSS)<\script>`



Persistent XSS

- Script stored on the server
- Trusted source – browser loads it



Serverside vs. Clientside

Where untrusted data is used		
Data Persistence	XSS	
	Server	Client
	Stored	Stored Server XSS
	Reflected	Reflected Server XSS
		Client XSS

- ❑ DOM-Based XSS is a subset of Client XSS (where the data source is from the client only)
- ❑ Stored vs. Reflected only affects the likelihood of successful attack, not nature of vulnerability or defense

Hands-on

<https://google-gruyere.appspot.com/>

Prevention

- Modern web frameworks help – but cannot protect you from yourself
- Output Encoding
 - encode every user input
 - carefully chose where you allow user input
 - e.g. HTML encoding:
 - Script: `<script>alert("You have been attacked!")</script>`
 - Encoded: `<script>alert("you are attacked")</script>`
 - different encoding types [here](#)
- HTML Sanitization
 - when you need to let user input html
 - <https://github.com/cure53/DOMPurify>

Cross-Site Request Forgery - CSRF

- trick user to submit malicious request
- ALL cookies to the relevant site are sent
- Usual attack scenario
 - Figure out how the request should look like
 - Craft the attack
 - Trick user into execution



CSRF - usual attack scenario

1. Figure out how the request should look like

```
GET http://bank.com/transfer.do?acct=MAMA&amount=100  
HTTP/1.1
```

2. Craft the attack

1. Malicious GET

```
GET http://bank.com/transfer.do?acct=JARDA&amount=10000000  
HTTP/1.1
```

2. Hide it!

```

```

3. Trick user into execution – email with HTML

Hi Mama,

I just want to tell you I am doing fine and my grades are good.

Bye.

Hands-on

<https://google-gruyere.appspot.com/>

Prevention

- Tokens
 - per session and generated by server – ideally per request
 - secret and unpredictable
 - not transferred by cookies

Now go and do the homework!

kbe.felk.cvut.cz