

# Securing User Browsing: Comparing Browsers and Extensions Effectiveness against XSS Attacks

## Content:

- Server
- Website
- Attacks
- Experiments
  - Experiments without browser extensions
  - Experiments with browser extensions
  - Experiments with Content security policy
- Result

**Server:** To host the website, go to the folder with the website contents and right click, open terminal and type python app.py. Read me the text file holds instructions for setting up the project.

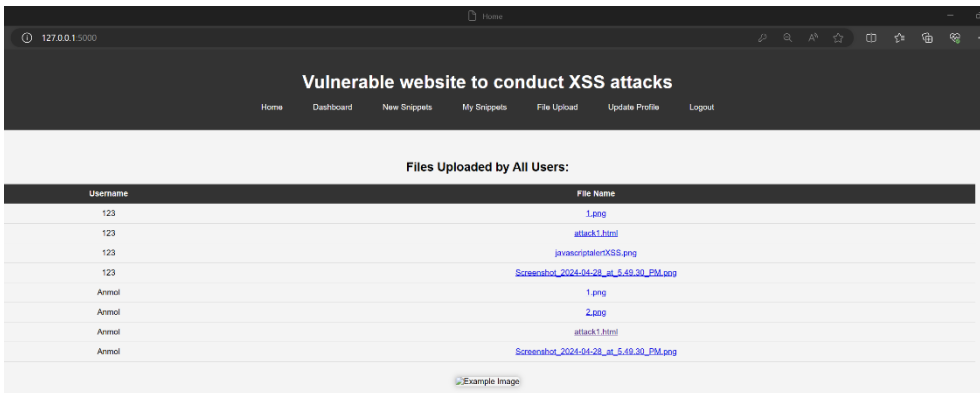
```
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Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows

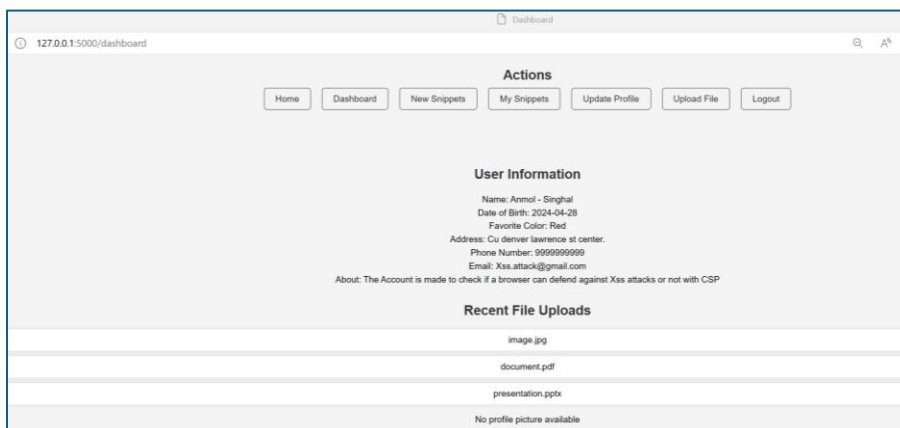
PS C:\Users\anmol\Desktop\Updated_Project\Project> python app.py
* Serving Flask app 'app'
* Debug mode: off
WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment. Use a production WSGI server instead.
* Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000
Press CTRL+C to quit
127.0.0.1 - - [28/Apr/2024 13:16:01] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 302 -
127.0.0.1 - - [28/Apr/2024 13:16:01] "GET /login HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [28/Apr/2024 13:16:07] "POST /login HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [28/Apr/2024 13:16:11] "GET /signup HTTP/1.1" 200 -
```

**Website:** This section gives a go through of how the website looks.

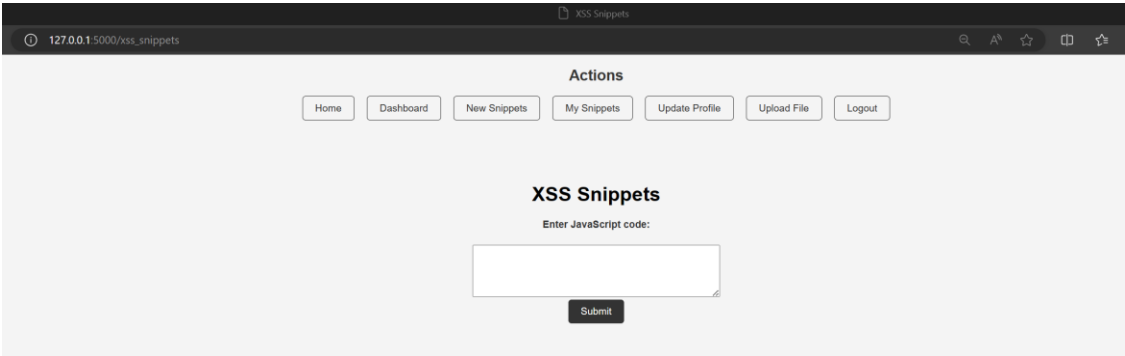
## Home Page:



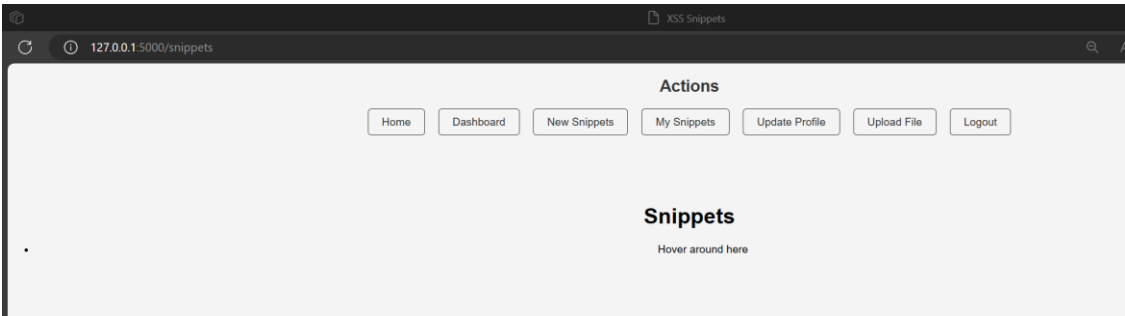
## Dashboard Page:



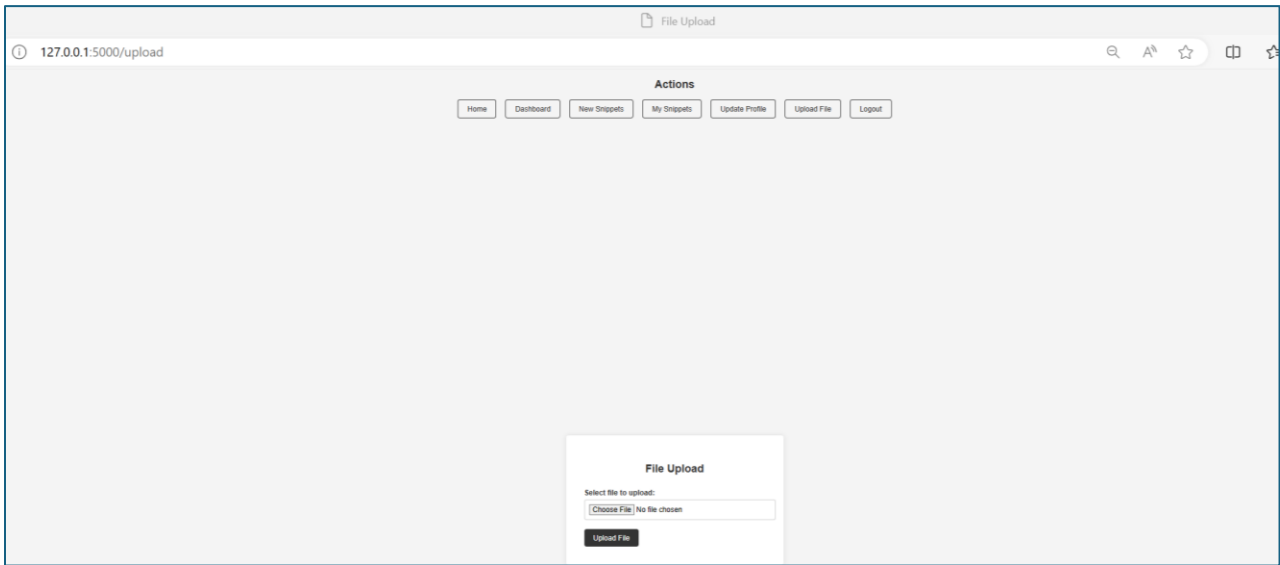
New Snippets Page:



My Snippets Page:



File Upload Page:



## Update Profile Page:

127.0.0.1:5000/update

Update Profile

Actions

Home Dashboard New Snippets My Snippets Update Profile Upload File Logout

**Update Profile**

First Name:  
Anmol

Last Name:  
Singhal

Middle Name:  
-

Date of Birth:  
04/28/2024

Favorite Color:  
Red

Password:  
\*\*\*\*

Profile Picture:  
Choose File No file chosen

Address:  
Cu denver lawrence st center.

Phone Number:  
999999999

Email:  
Xss.attack@gmail.com

Tell us about yourself:  
The Account is made to check if a browser can defend against Xss attacks or not with CSP

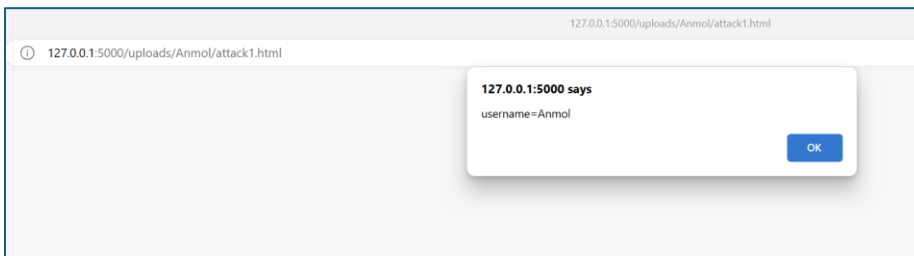
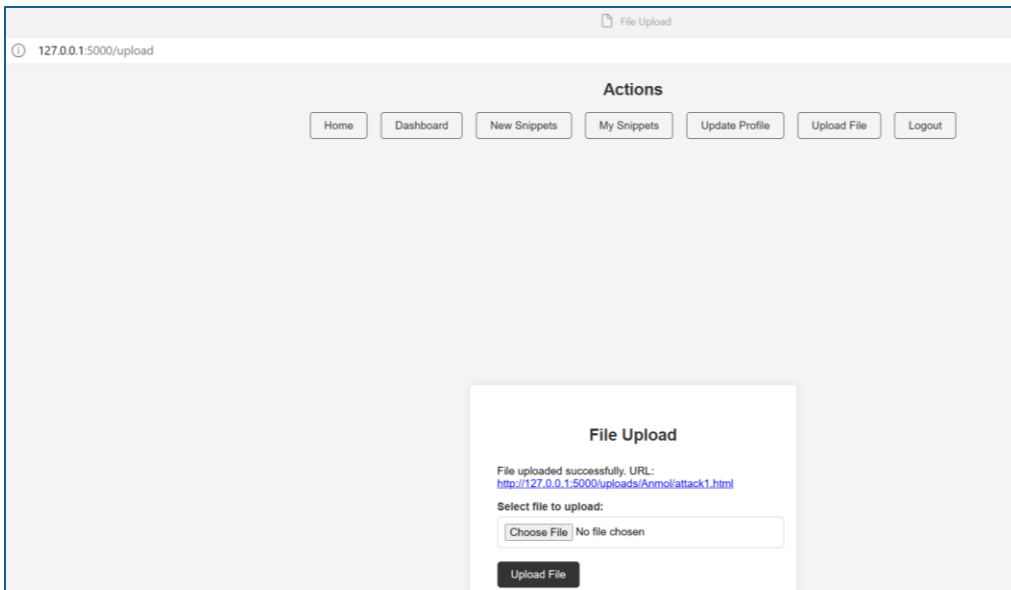
Update Profile

**Attacks:** This is a vulnerable website; it has 5 vulnerabilities in it which we can exploit to do XSS attacks. Below is the description of all the attacks one by one.

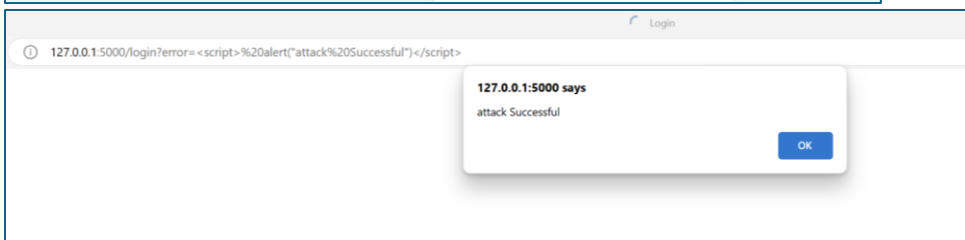
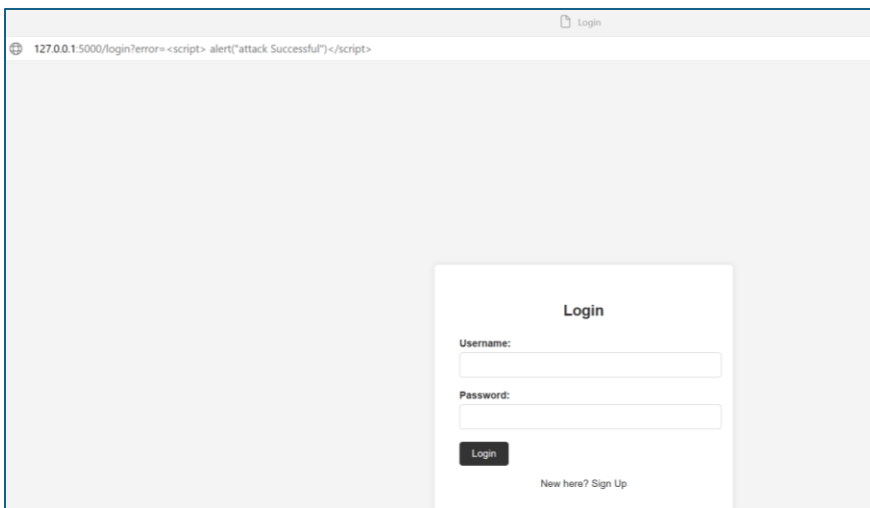
**Attack1: File Upload:** Once the file uploads it gives a URL, when we click this URL, it opens the file and malicious script is executed on the user's system.

Attack1.html is the file we will use for each file upload attack throughout the experiments.

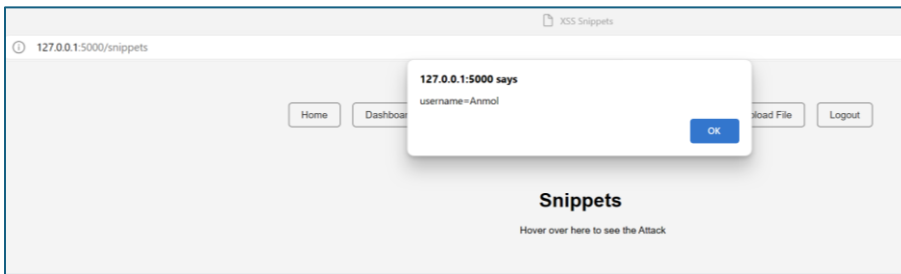
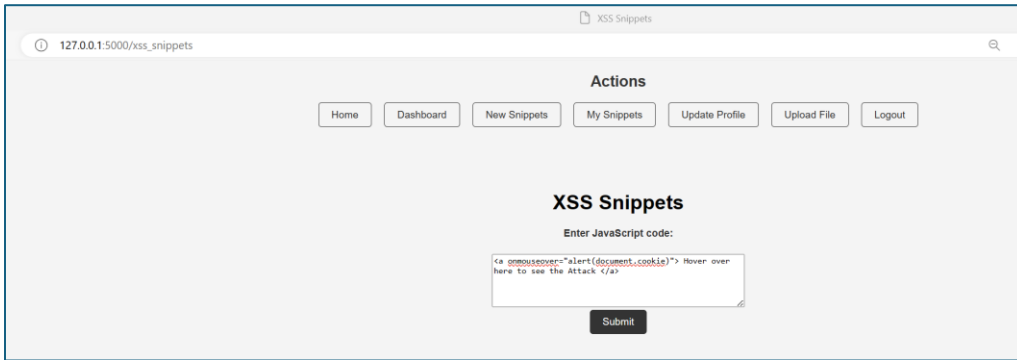
```
<script>
1
2
3 alert(document.cookie)
4
5 </script>
```



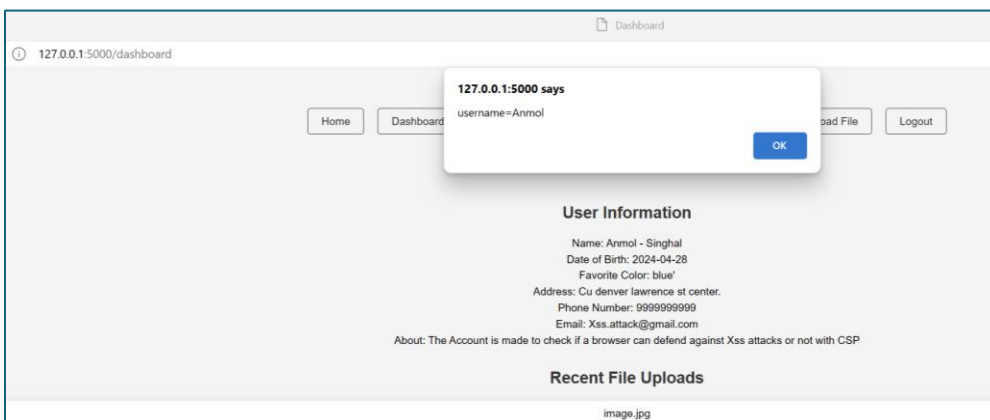
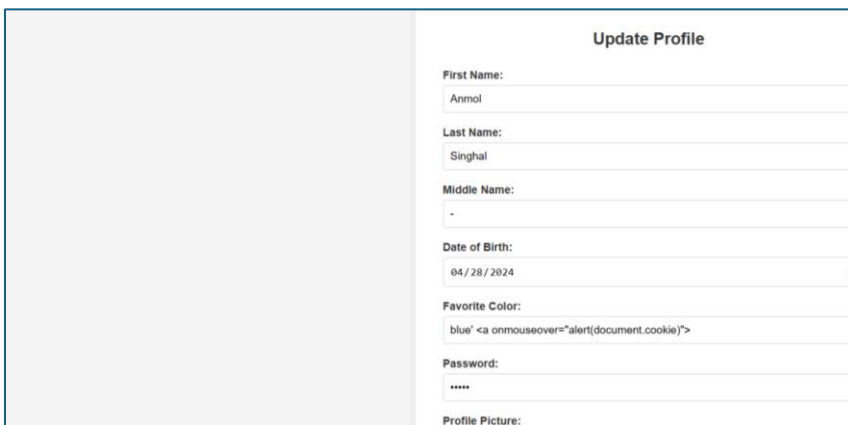
**Attack2: URL:** If you go to login page and add this script? error=<script>alert ("Attack Happened") </script> in the URL or any other script where the current text of URL ends, and press enter the malicious script will be executed.



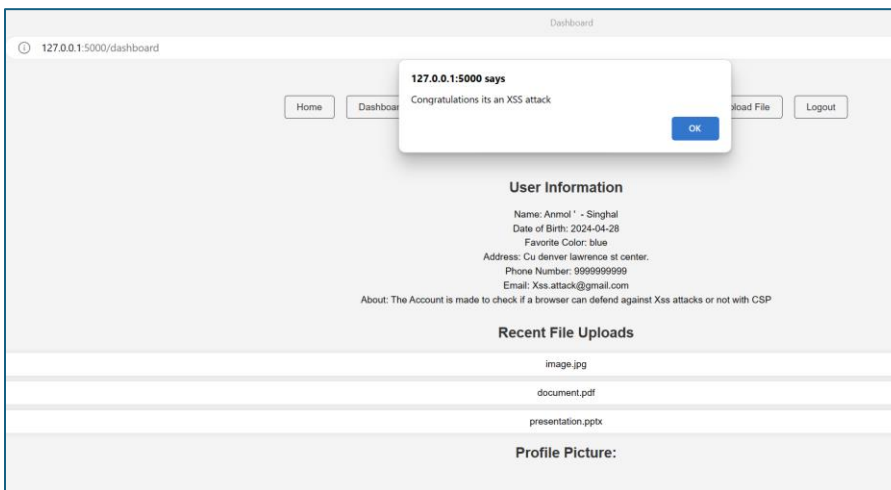
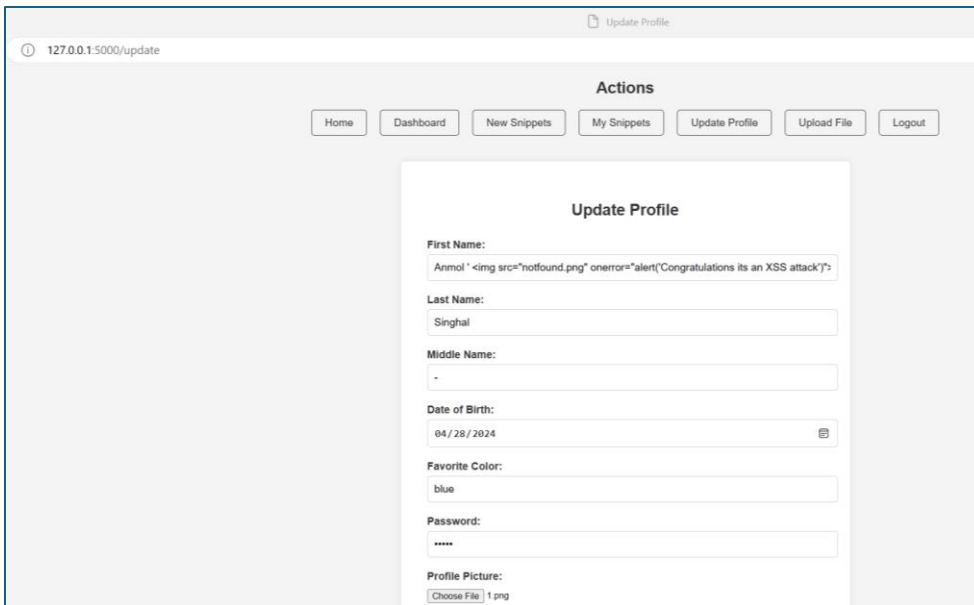
**Attack3: Snippets:** If you go to new snippets page and add script like <a onmouseover="alert(document.cookie)"> Hover around here...</a> in the text box, or any other script, and press submit, Post this if we go to my snippet page and hover on the text we will the malicious script is executed.



**Attack4: Text Box:** If you go to update profile page and add script in the favorite color text box after writing the color blue' <a onmouseover="alert(document.cookie)"> and click on update and then go to dashboard.html page and Hover around where the favorite color blue is written, we will the malicious script is executed.



**Attack5: Image:** If you go to update profile page and add script in the First name text box after writing the name '<img src="notfound.png" onerror="alert('Congratulations, XSS attack')"' and put any other image in profile picture make sure that the notfound.png does not exist click on update and then go to dashboard.html page and when you open the page there will be an error and you will see the malicious script is executed.

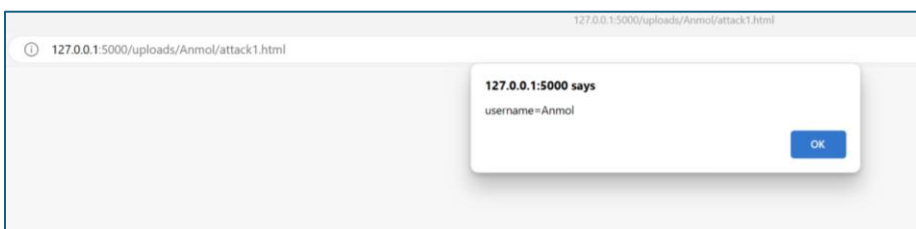


Experiments: In this section we will do our experiment attacks which will be divided into 3 sections. The description screenshot of each attack is in the earlier section, In the below section we will put only the final screenshot to see whether the attack was successful or not.

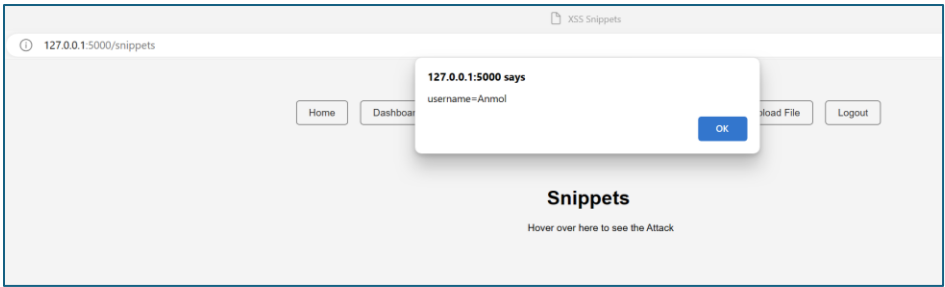
Section 1: Experiments without browser extensions: We have added no security in the code and no extension for this part to check if any browser is safe against Xss attack.

Edge: All the attacks happened successfully

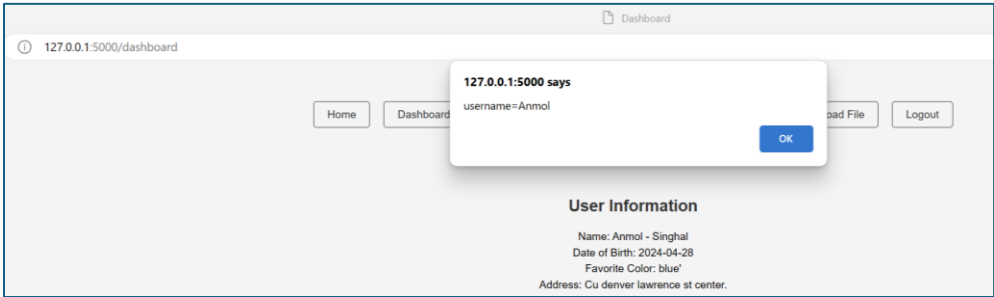
- File Upload



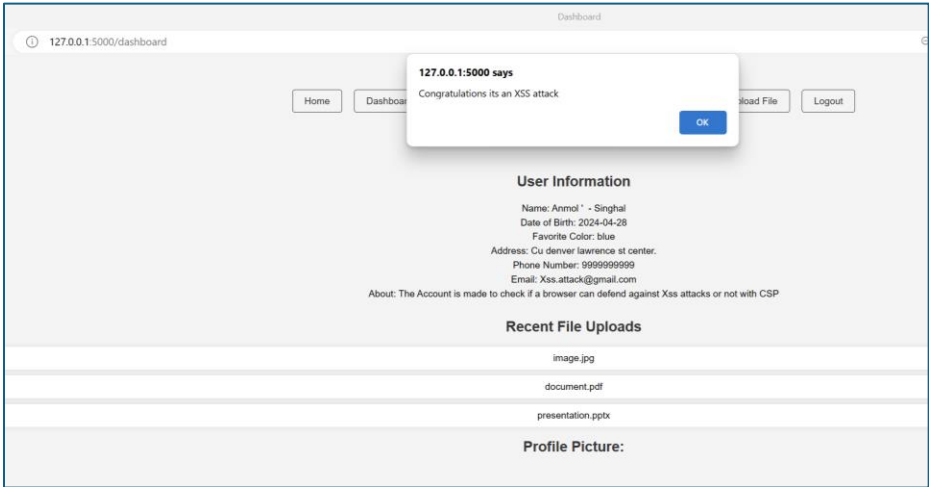
- Snippets



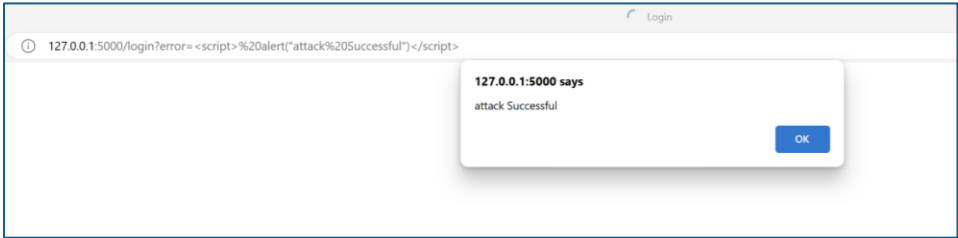
- Text Box



- Image

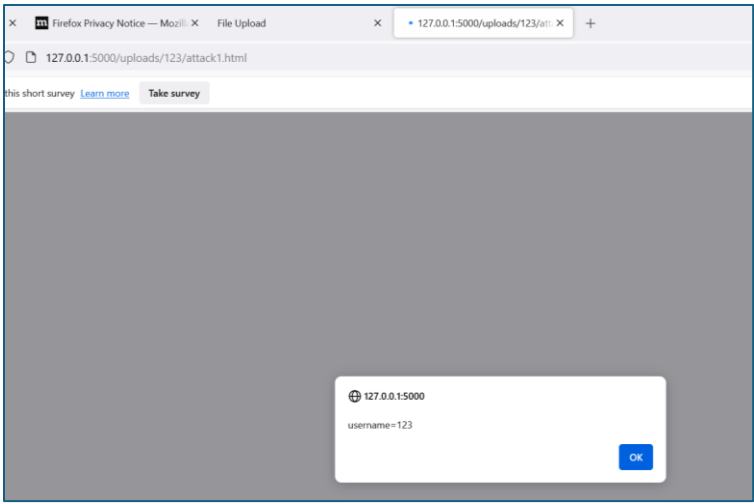


- URL

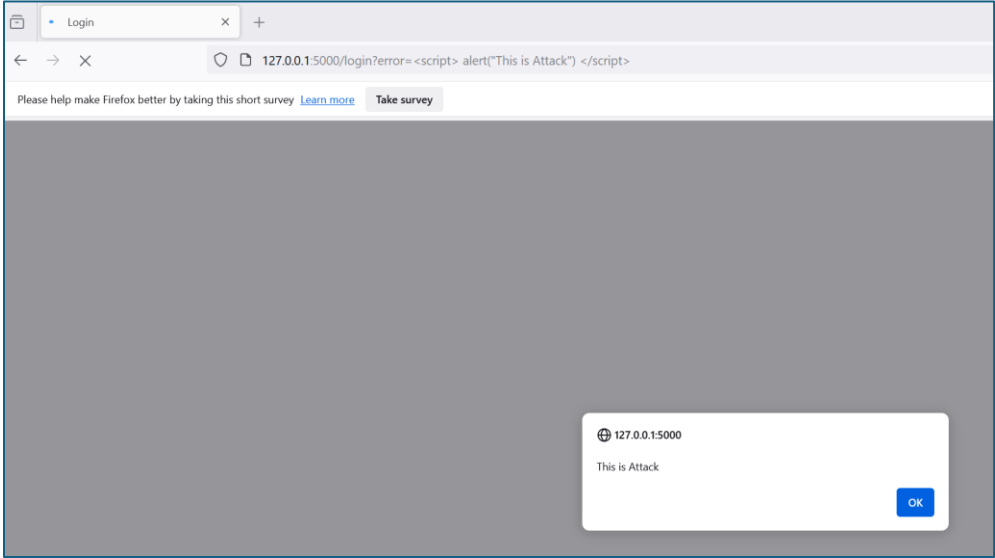


Firefox: All the attacks happened successfully.

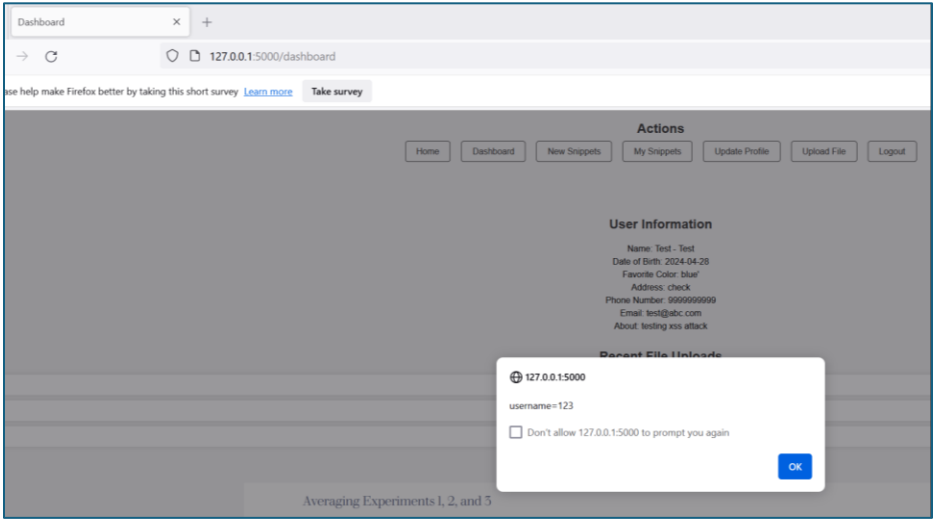
- File Upload



- URL

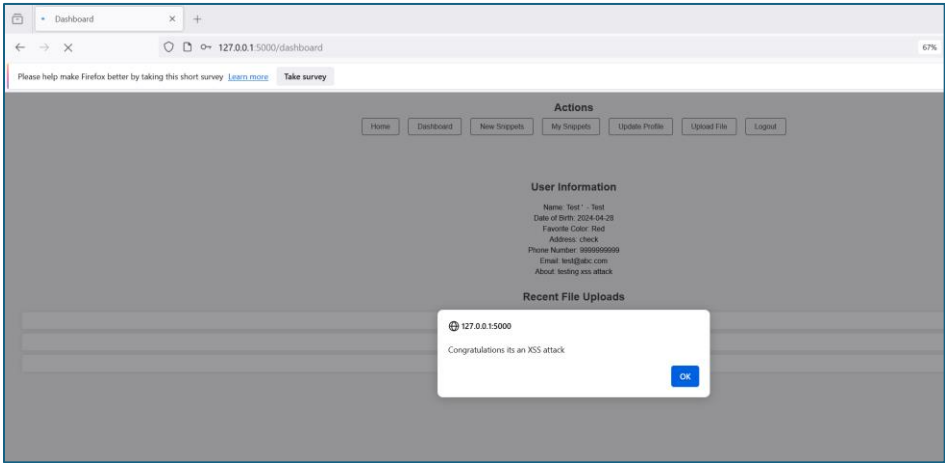


- Text Box

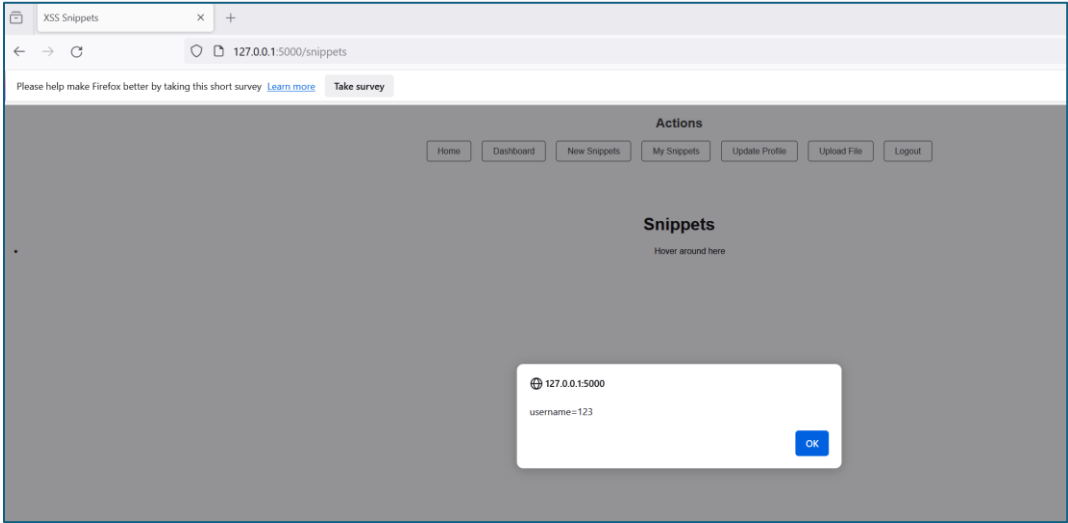




- Image

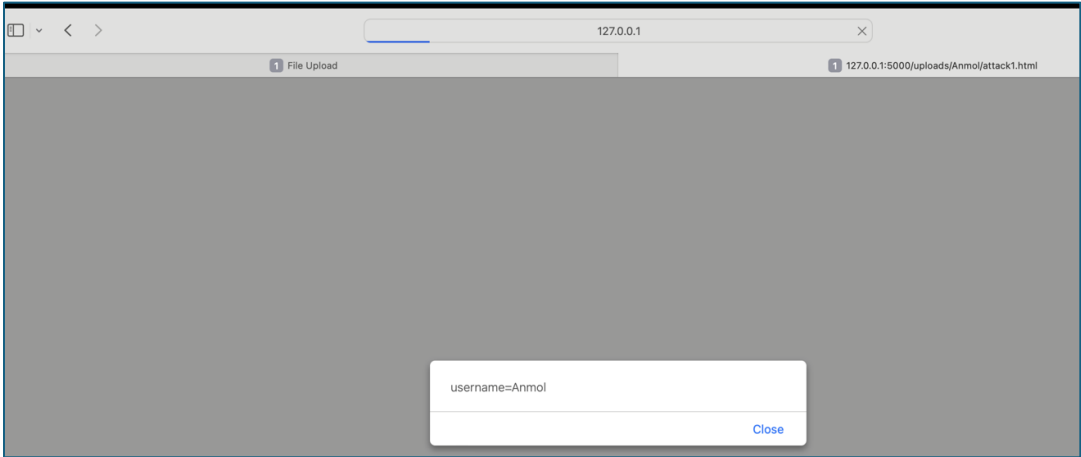


- Snippets

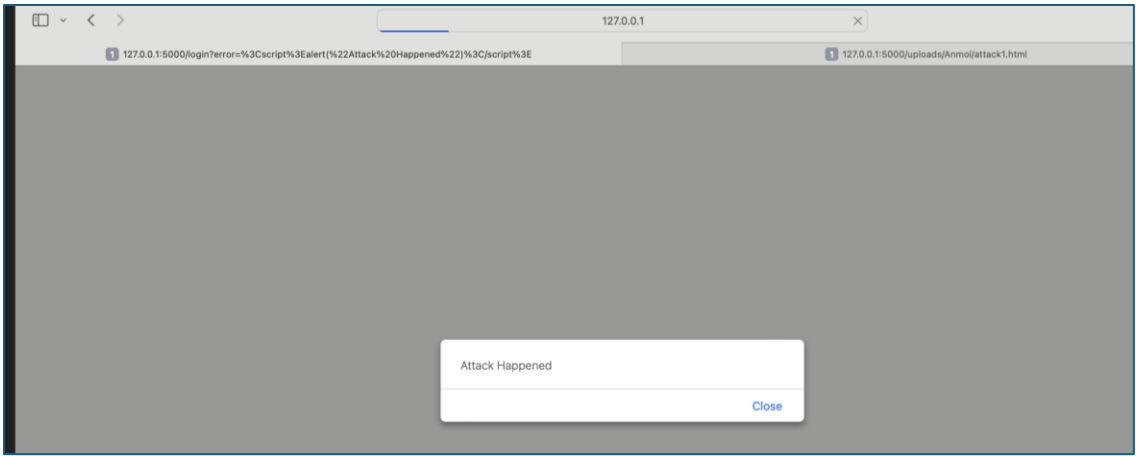


Safari: All the attacks happened successfully.

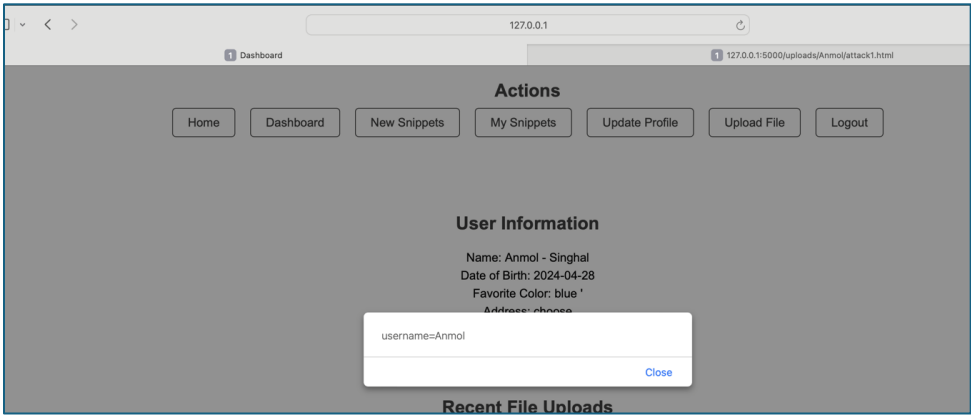
- File Upload



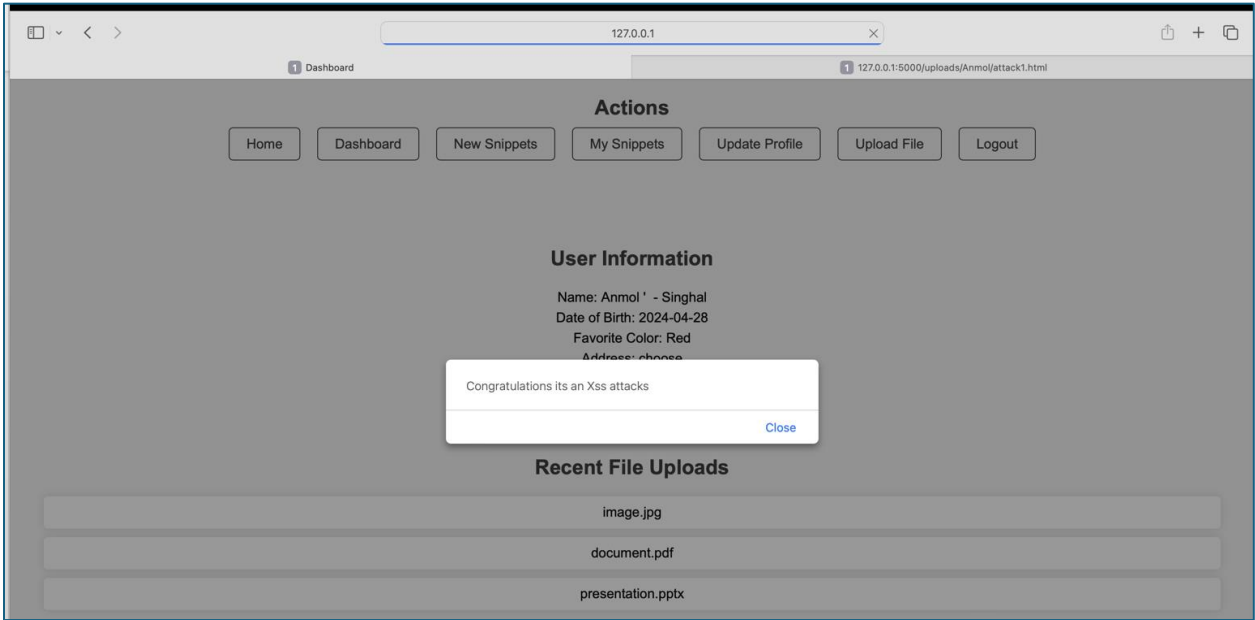
- URL:



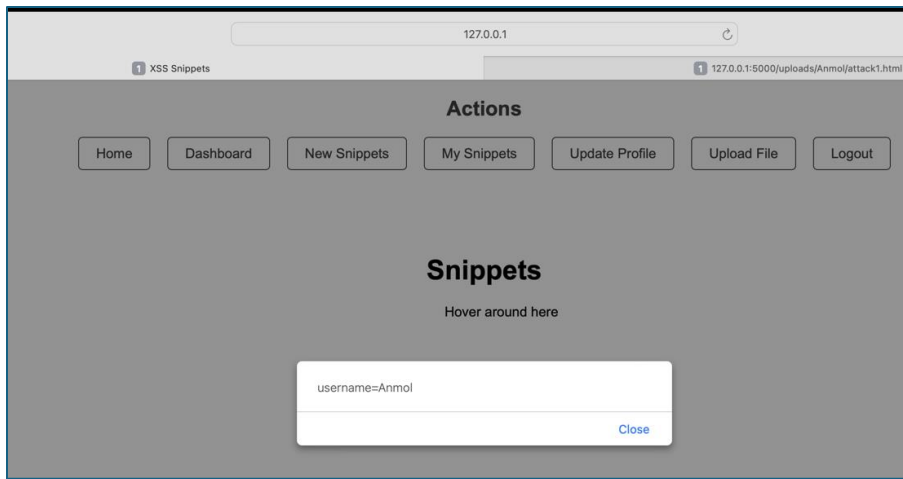
- Text Box:



- Image:

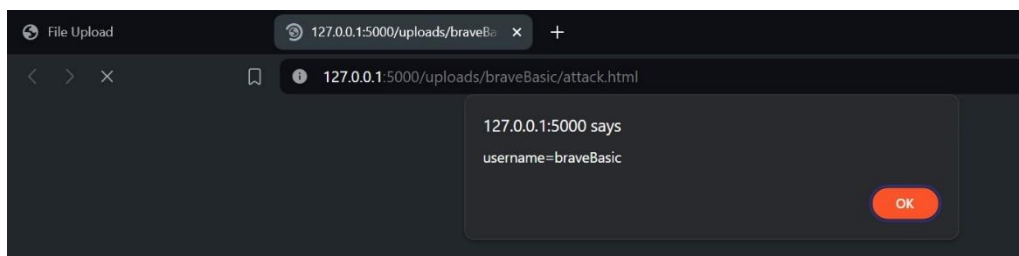


- Snippets:

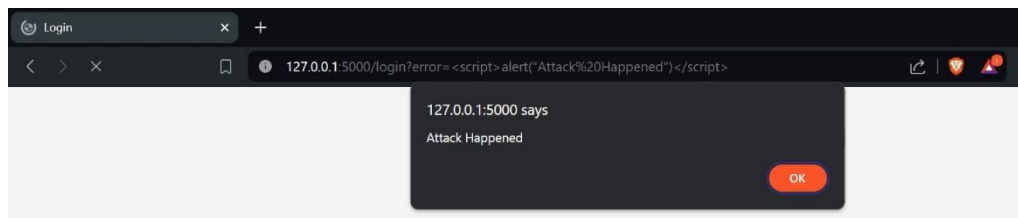


Brave: All the attacks happened successfully.

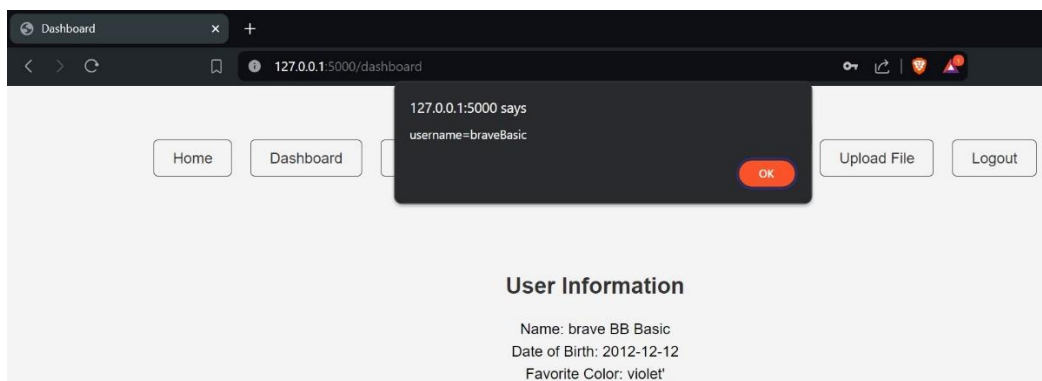
- File Upload



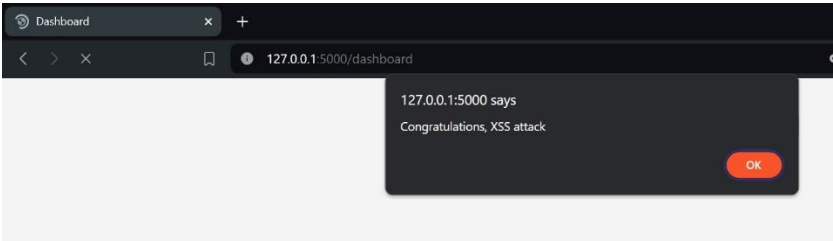
- URL:



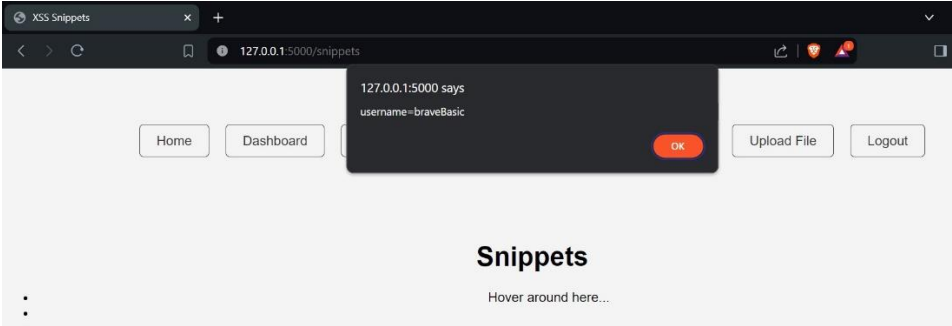
- Text Box:



- Image:

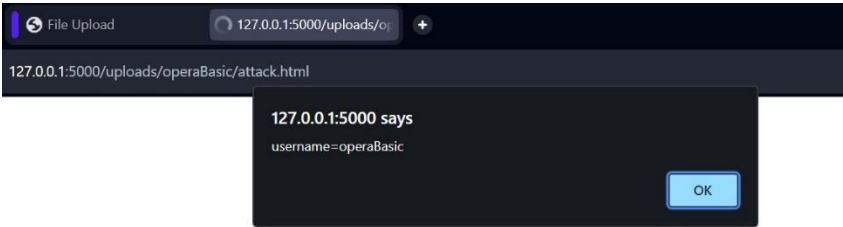


- Snippets:

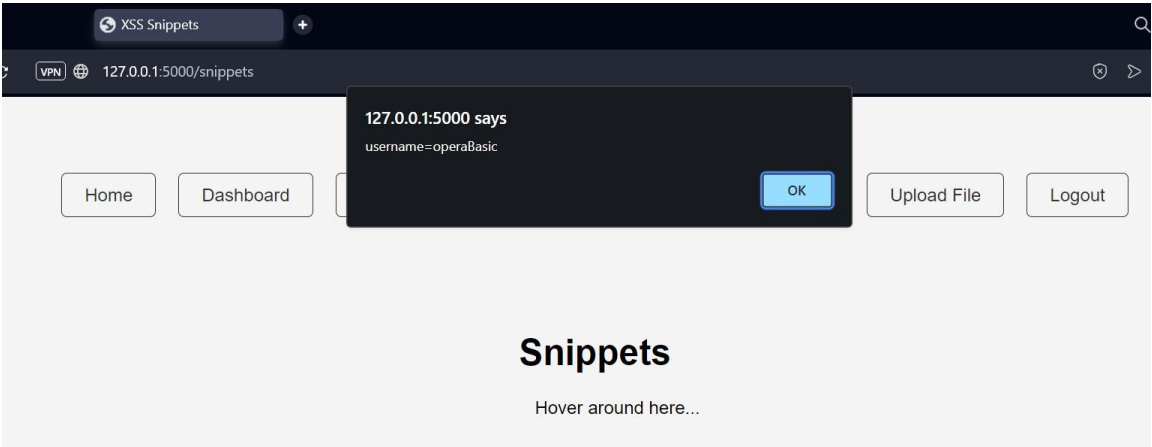


Opera: All the attacks happened successfully

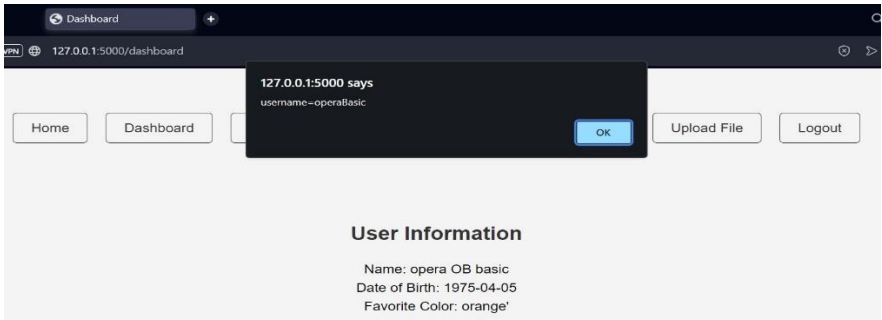
- File Upload



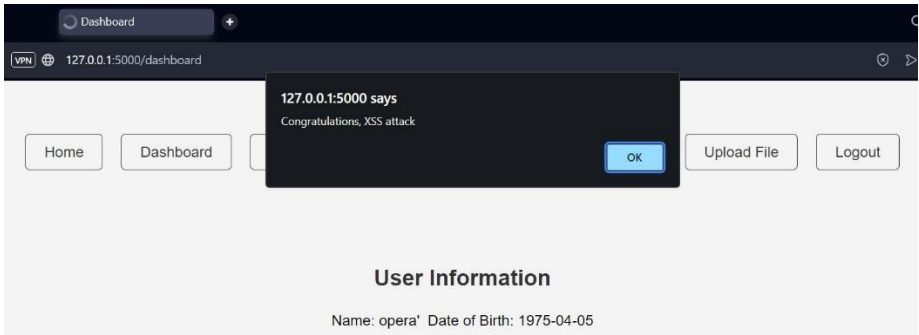
- Snippets



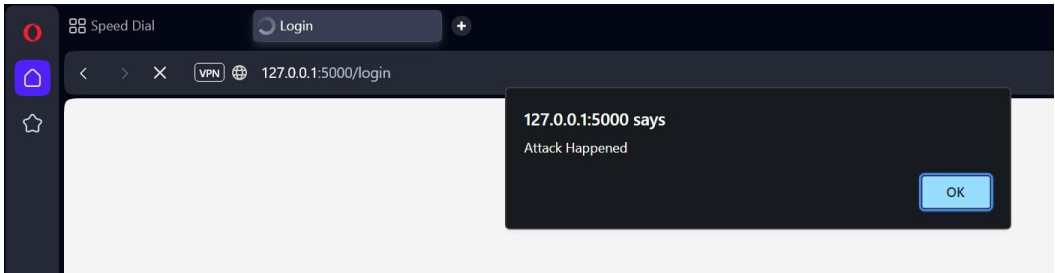
- Text Box



- Image

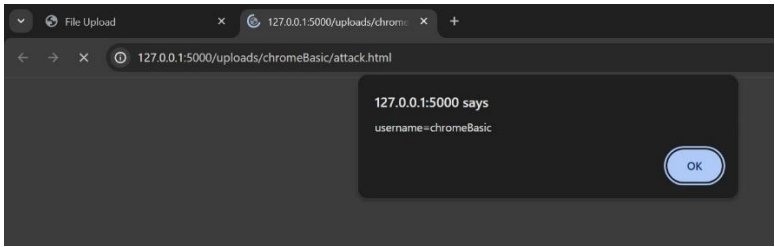


- URL

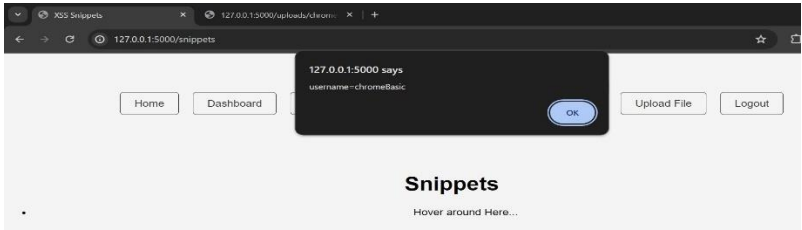


Chrome: All the attacks happened successfully

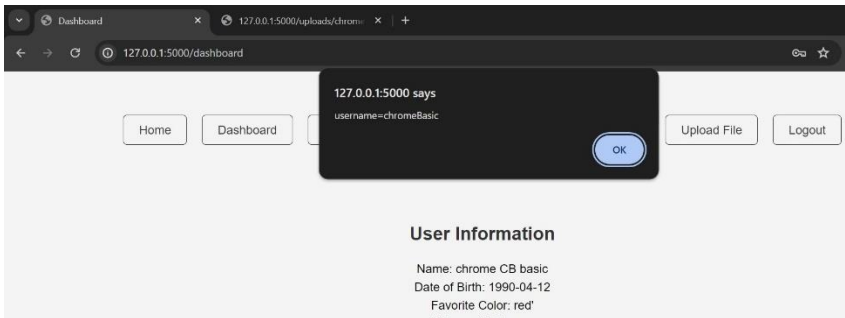
- File Upload



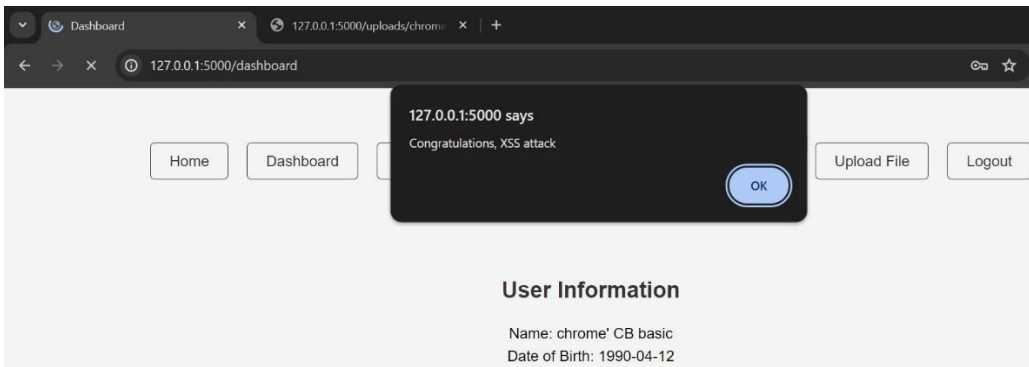
- Snippets



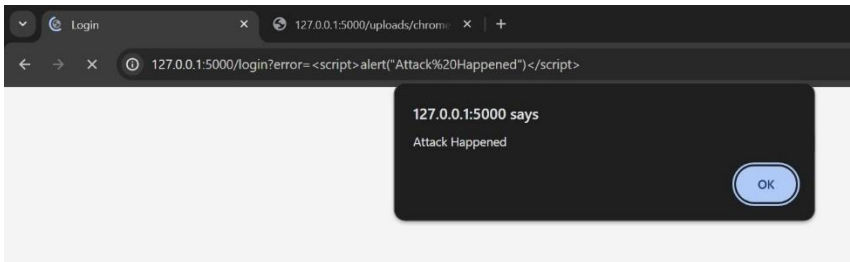
- Text Box



- Image



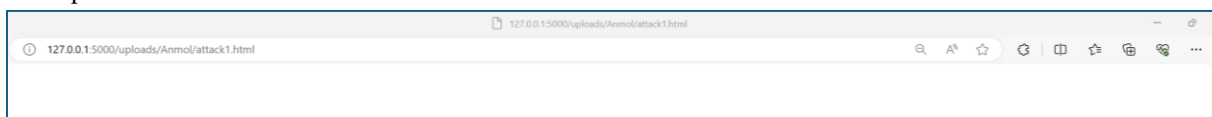
- URL



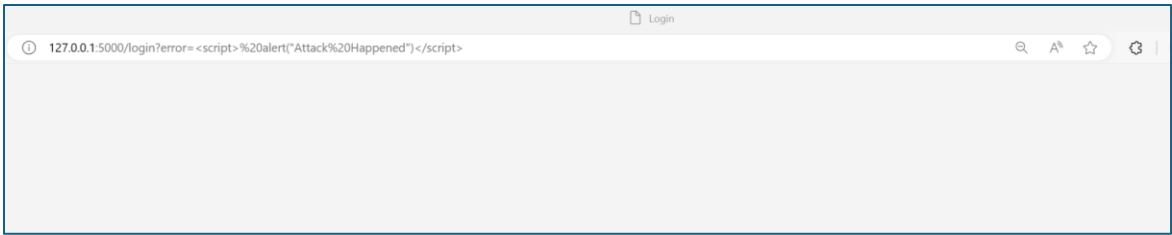
Section 2: Experiments without browser extensions: We have added security in the form of extension for this part to check which browsers are safe with which extensions to mitigate XSS attack.

Edge: With extension No script: All the attacks did not happen.

- File Upload:



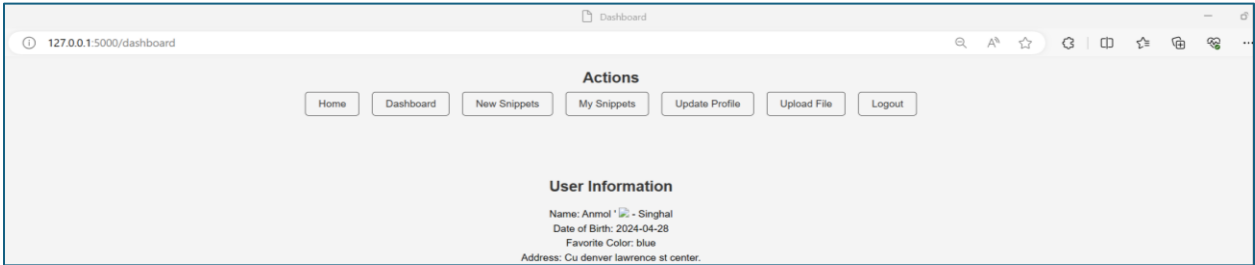
- URL:



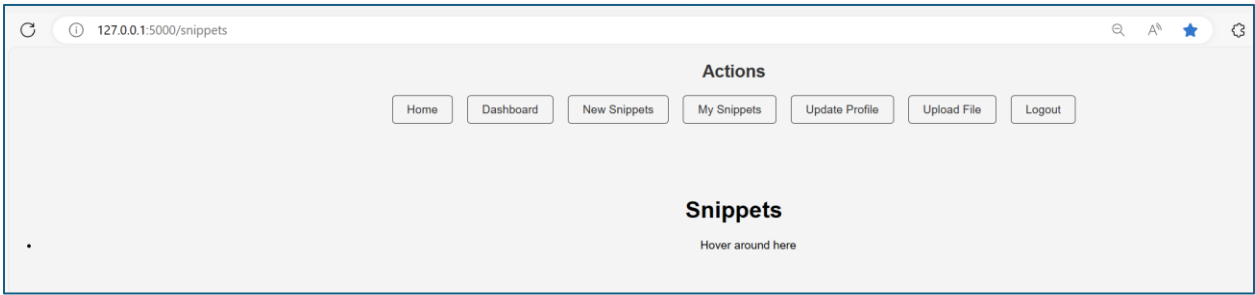
• Text Box:



• Image:

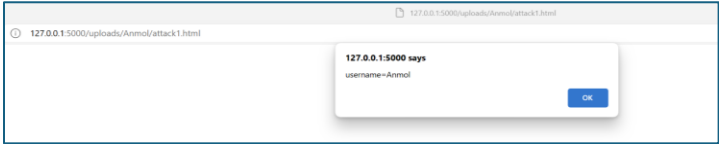


• Snippets:

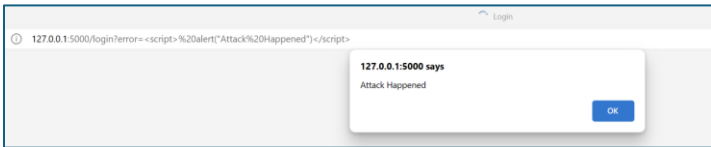


Edge: With extension Netcraft: All the attacks happened.

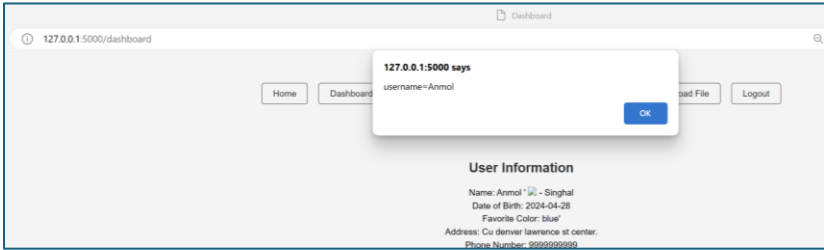
• File Upload:



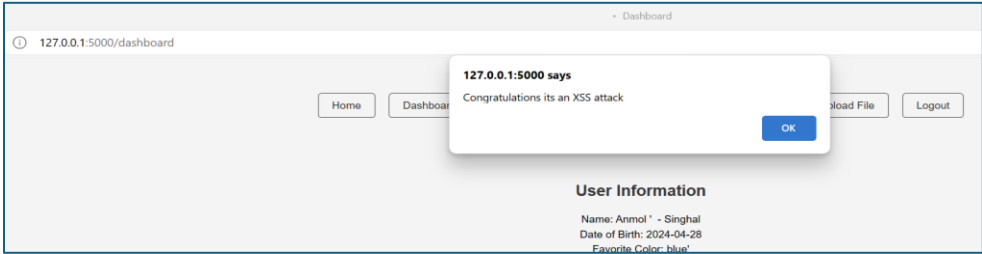
• URL:



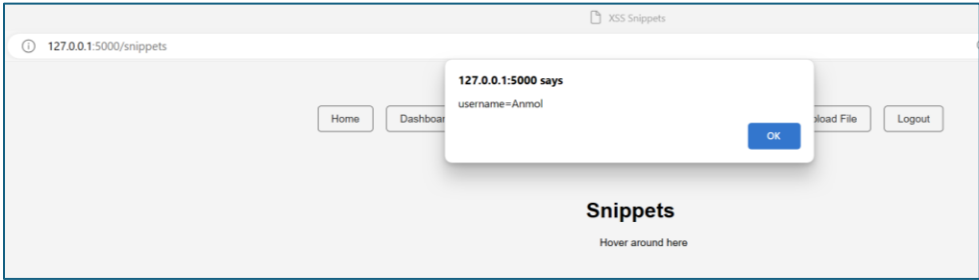
- Text Box:



- Image:

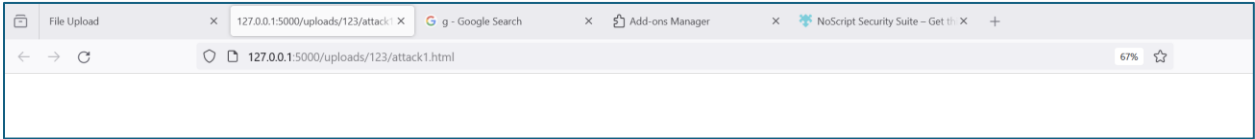


- Snippets:

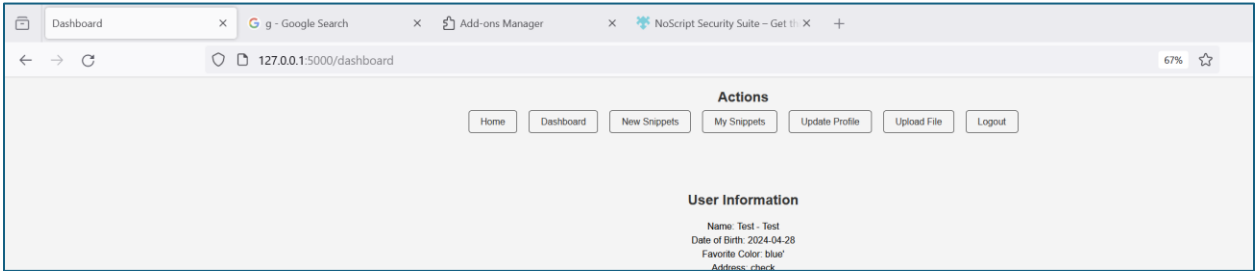


Firefox: With extension No Script: All the attacks did not happen.

- File Upload:

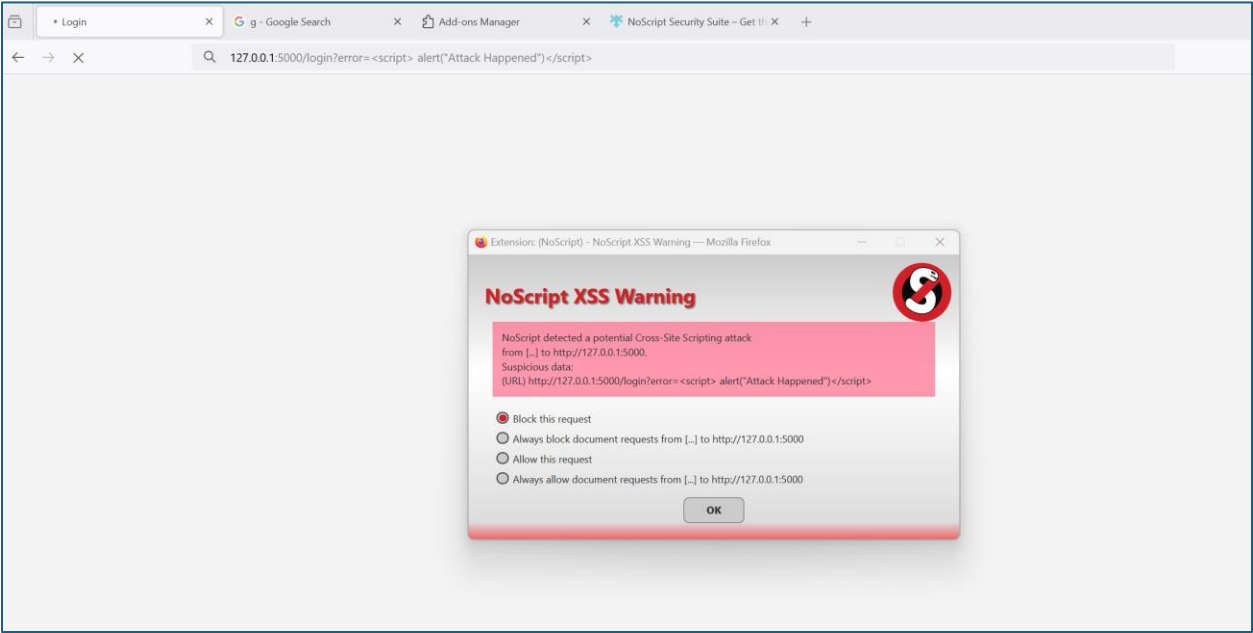


- Text Box:

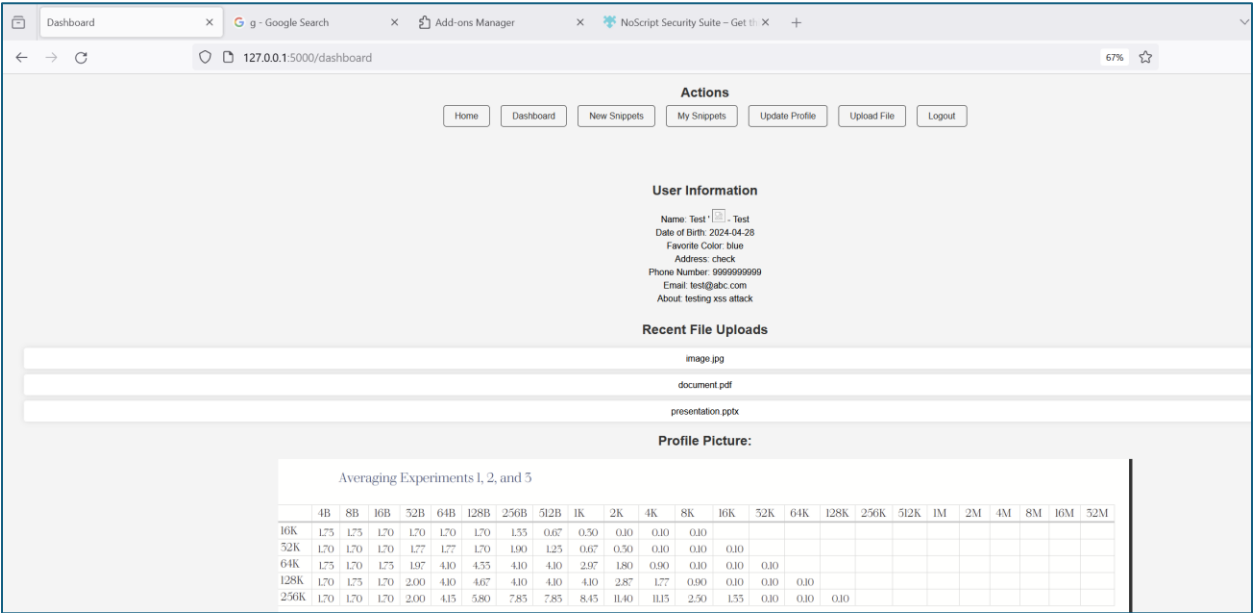




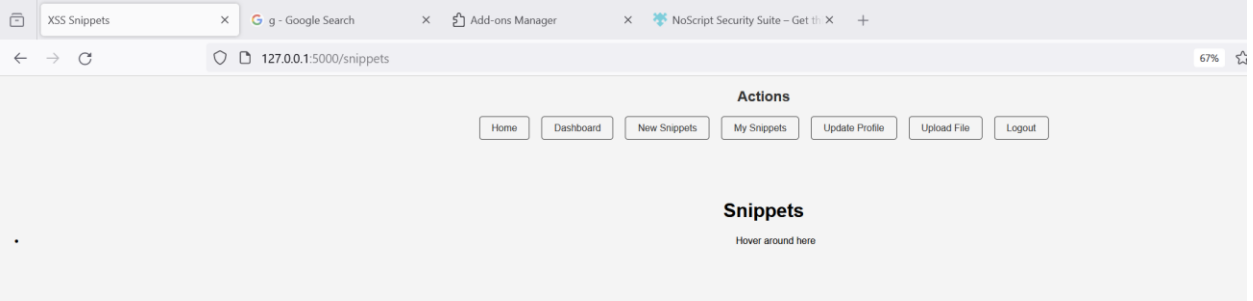
• URL:



• Image:

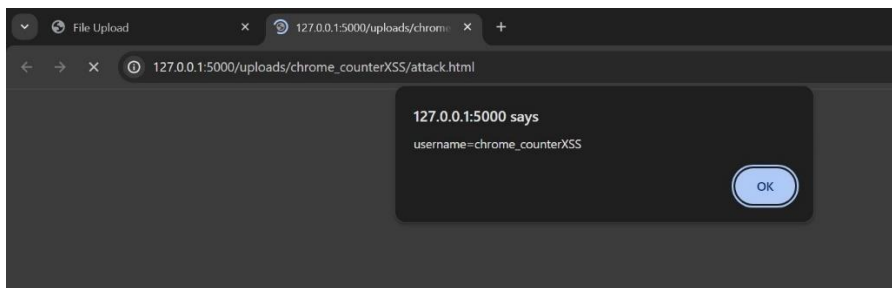


• Snippets:

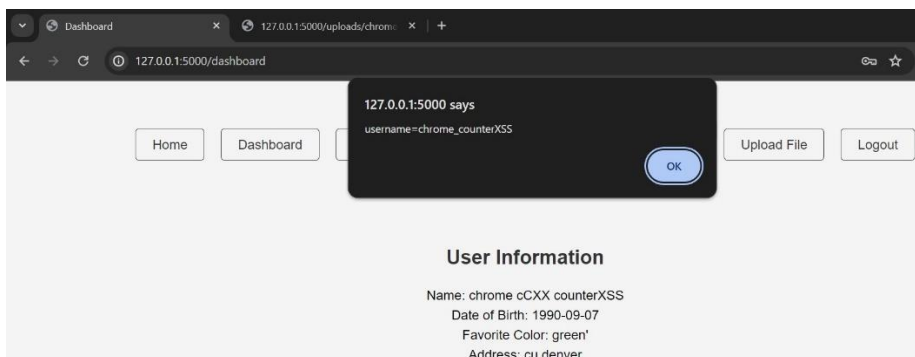


Chrome: With extension Counter XSS: All the attacks did happen.

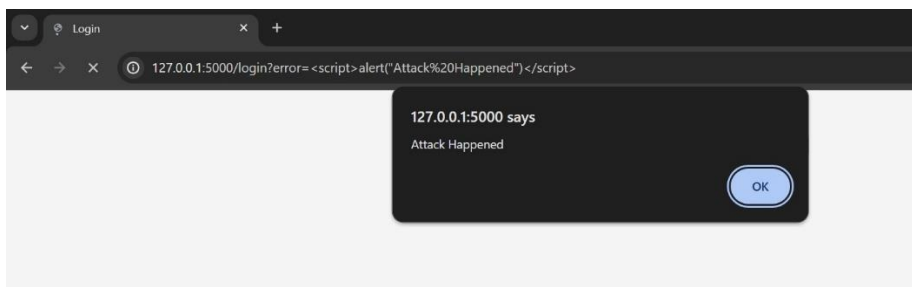
- File Upload:



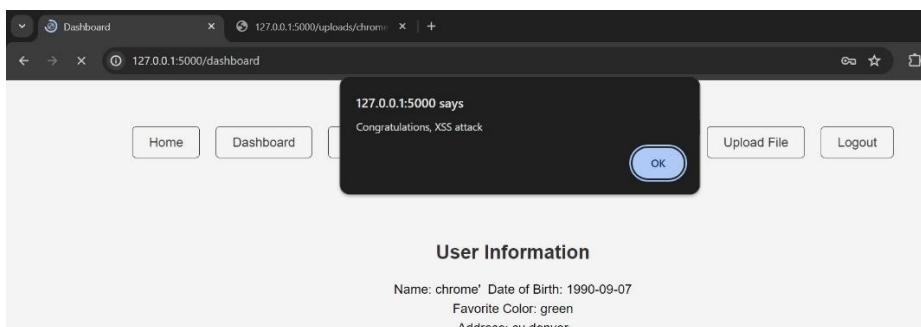
- Text Box:



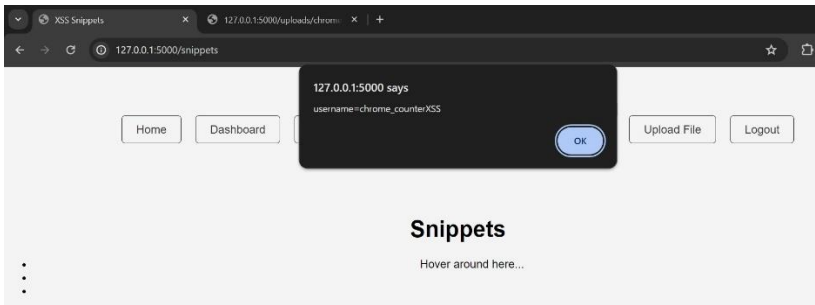
- URL:



- Image:

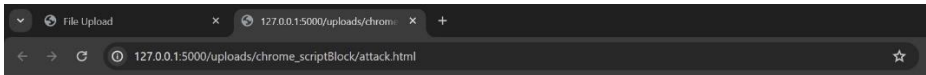


- Snippets:

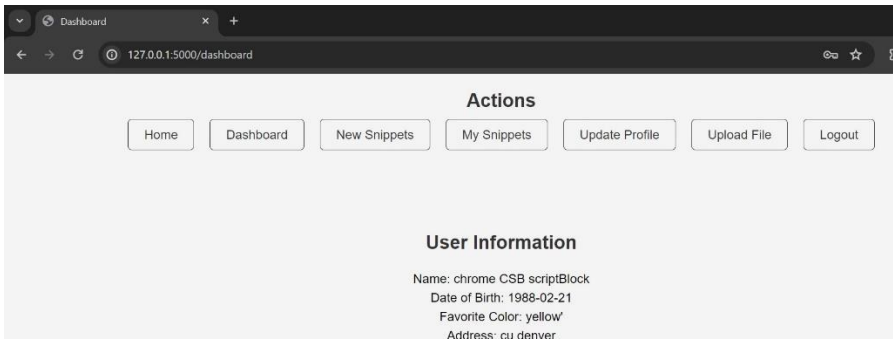


Chrome: With extension Script Block: All the attacks did not happen.

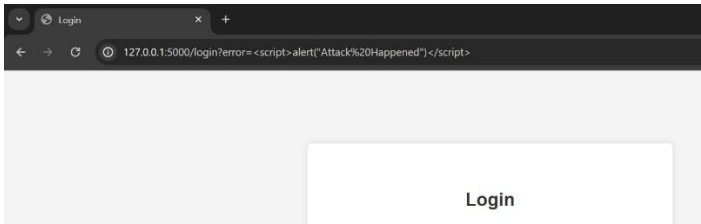
- File Upload:



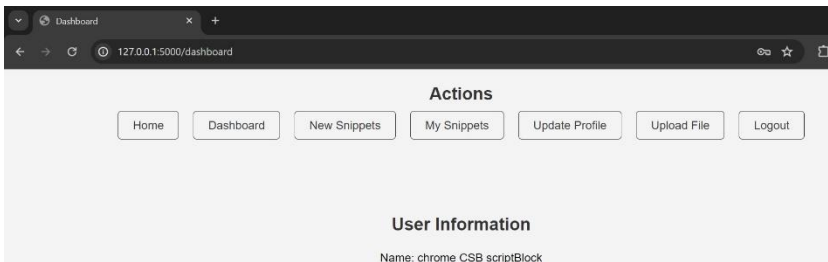
- Text Box:



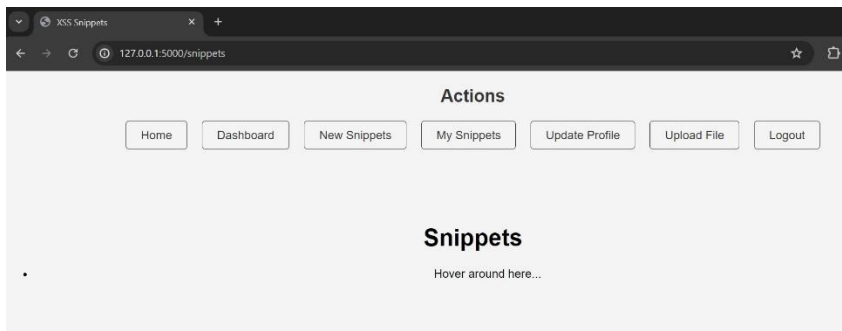
- URL:



- Image:

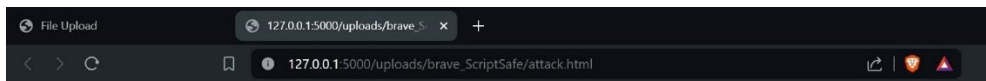


- Snippets:

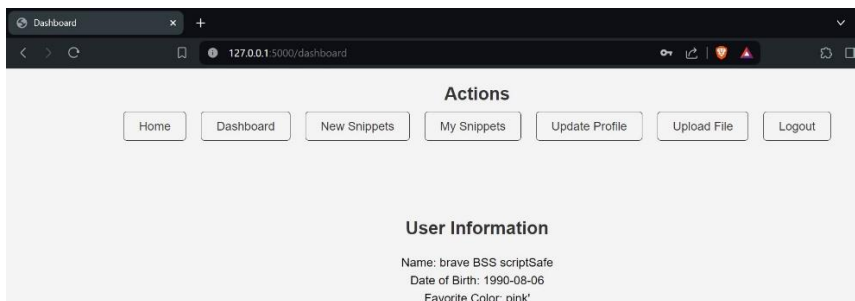


Brave: With extension Script Safe: All the attacks did not happen.

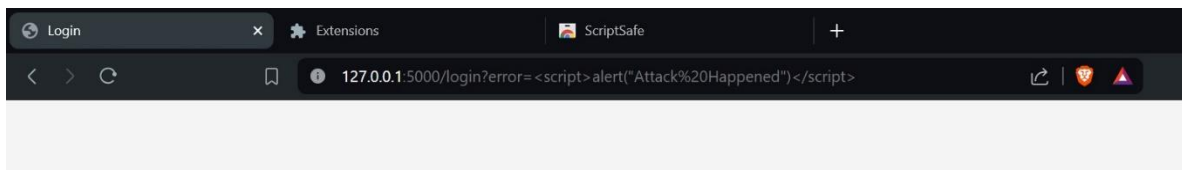
- File Upload:



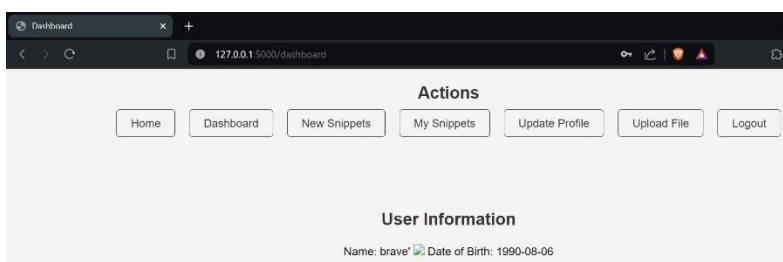
- Text Box:



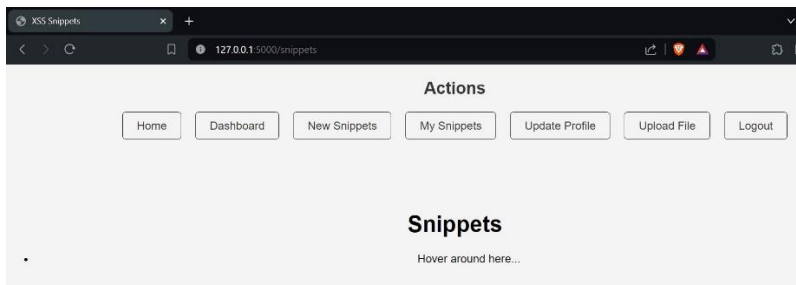
- URL:



- Image:

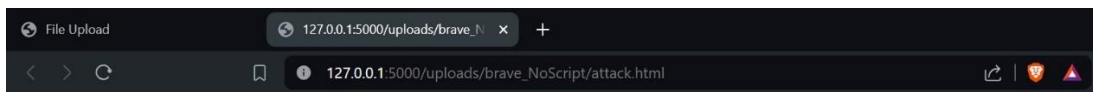


- Snippets:

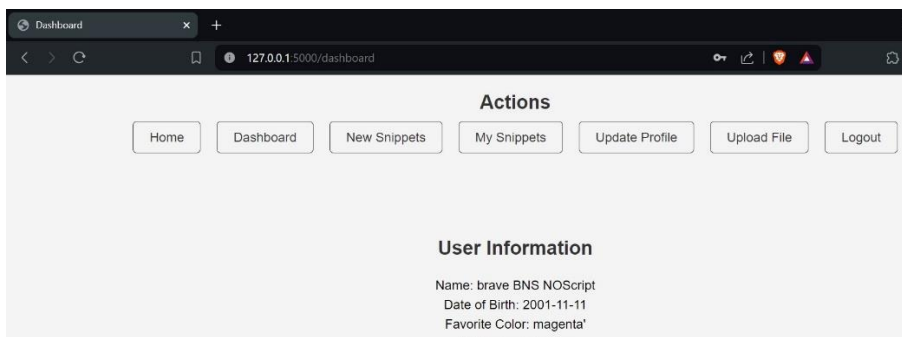


Brave: With extension No Script: All the attacks did not happen.

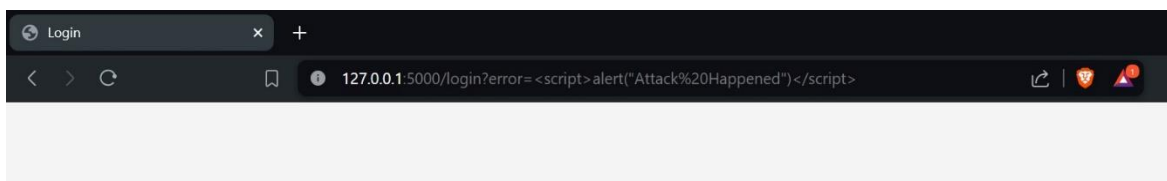
- File Upload:



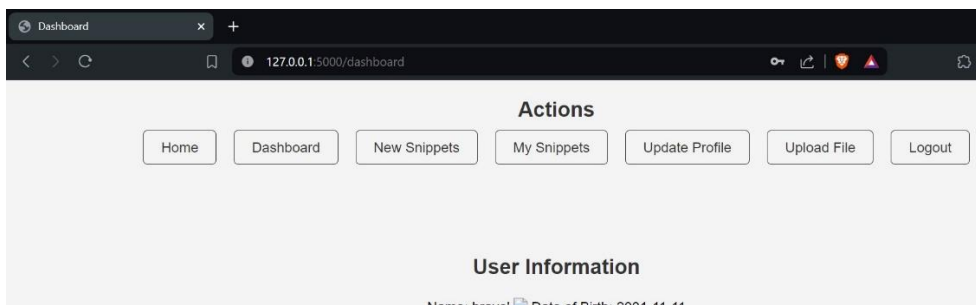
- Text Box:



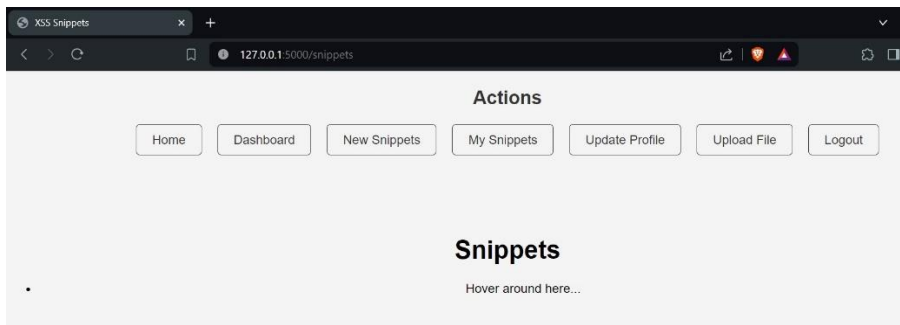
- URL:



- Image:

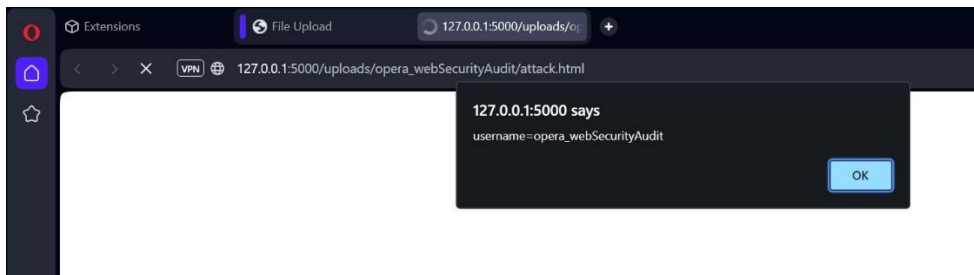


- Snippets:

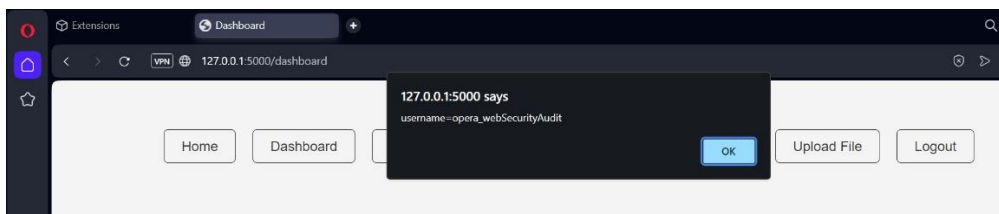


Opera: With extension Web security Audit: All the attacks did happen.

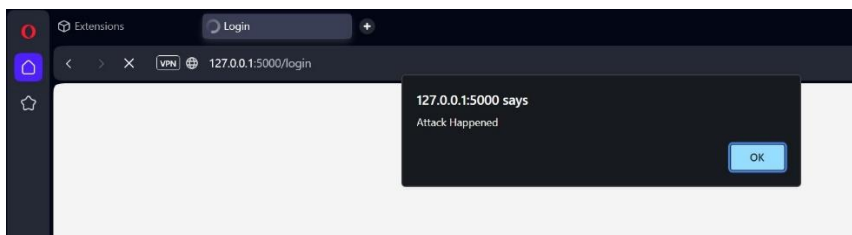
- File Upload:



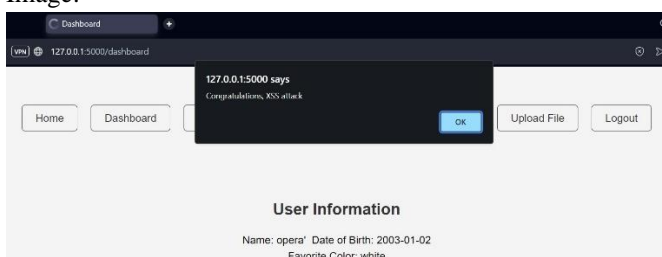
- Text Box:



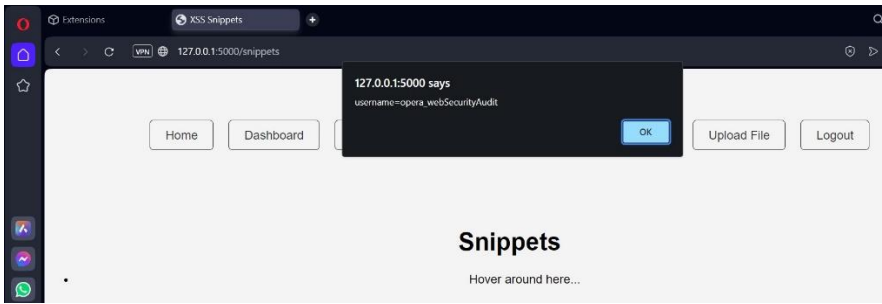
- URL:



- Image:

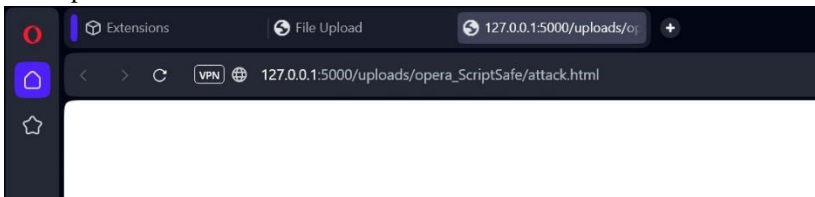


- Snippets:

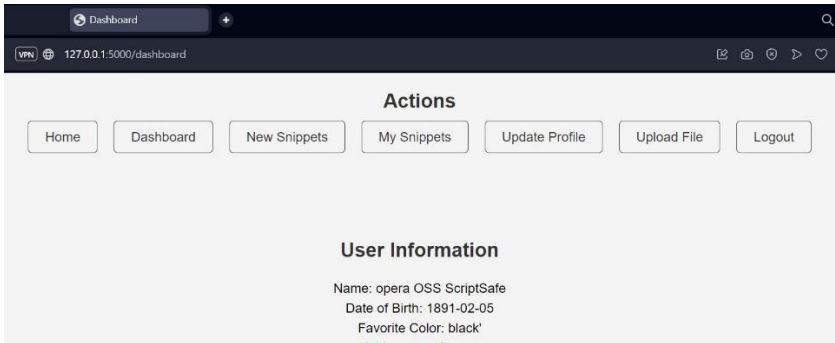


Opera: With extension Script safe: All the attacks did not happen.

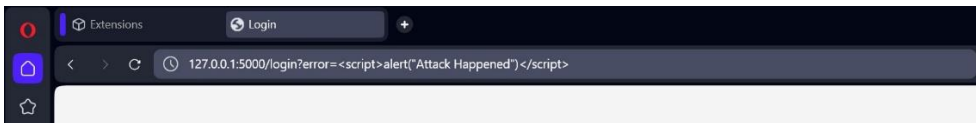
- File Upload:



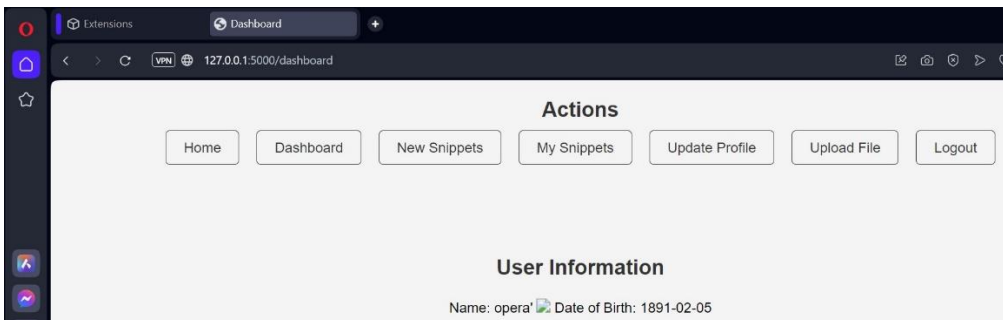
- Text Box:



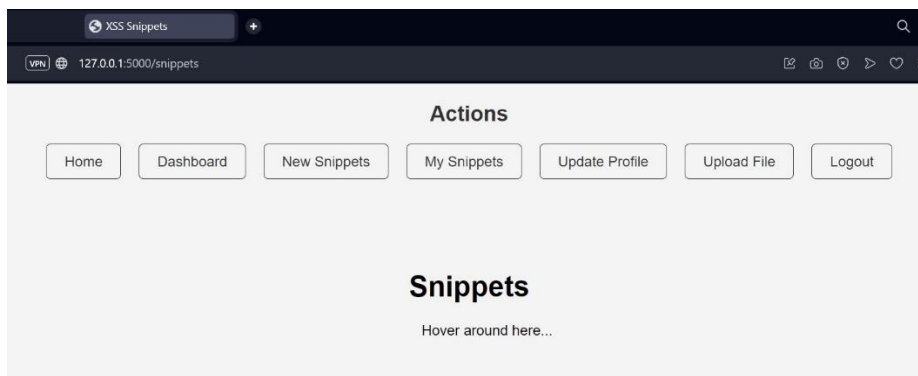
- URL:



- Image:



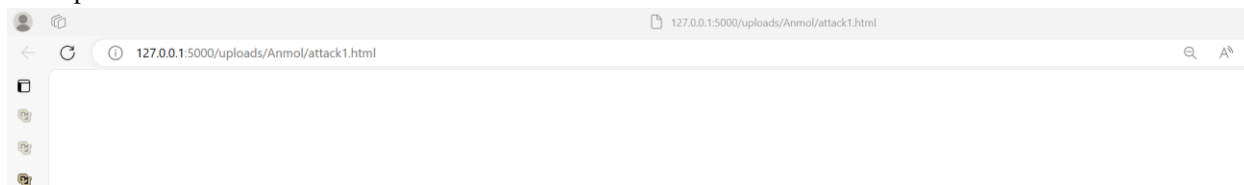
- Snippets:



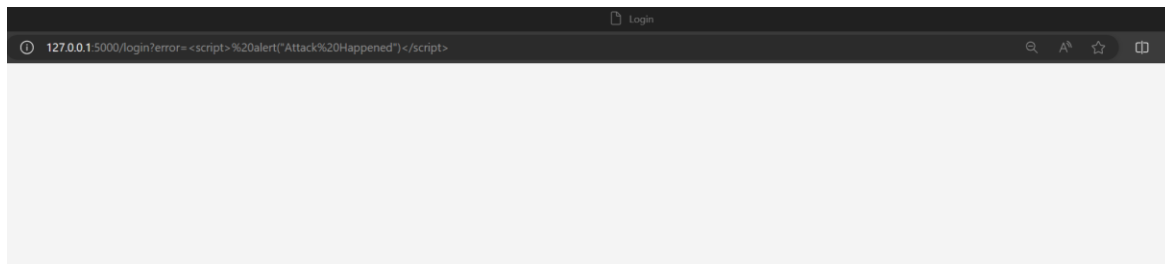
Section 3: Experiments with CSP We have added security in the code by adding content security policy for this part to check if any browser is safer if we added just one simple policy to the website.

Edge: Attack did not happen.

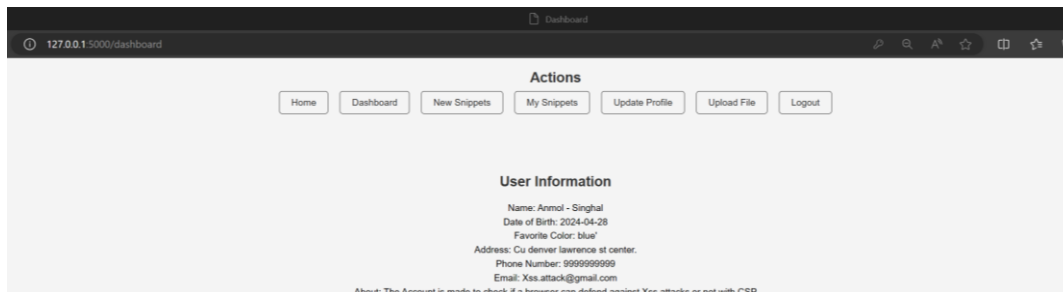
- File Upload:



- URL:

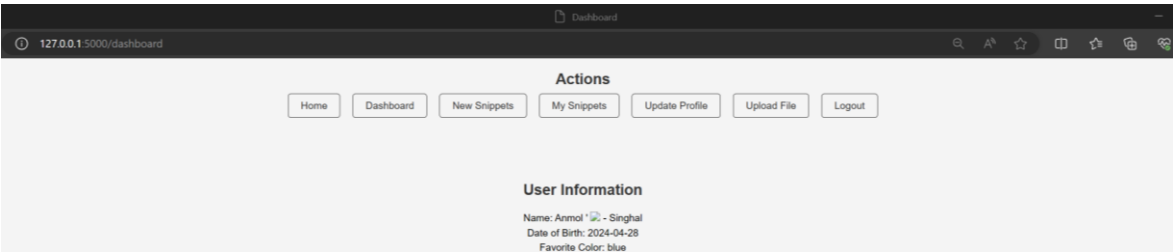


- Text Box:

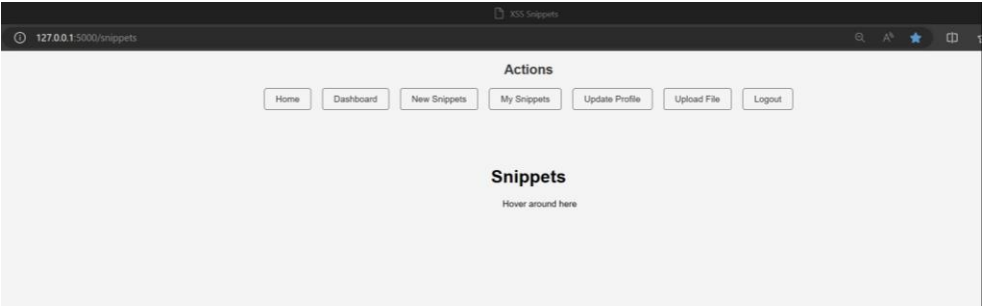


- Image:



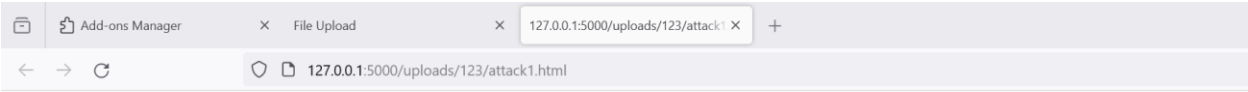


Snippets:

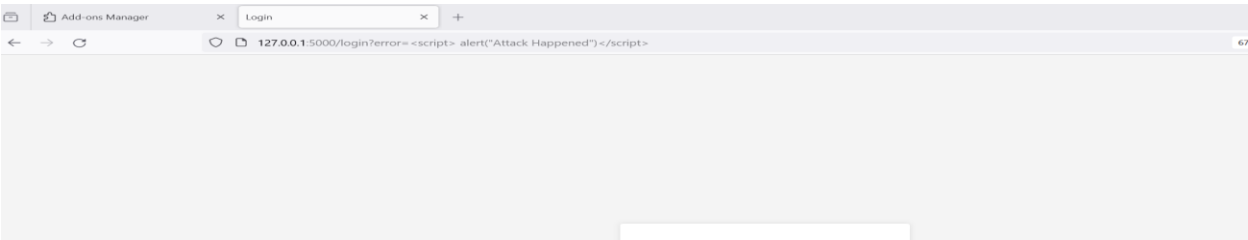


Firefox: Attack did not happen.

File Upload:



URL:



Text Box:

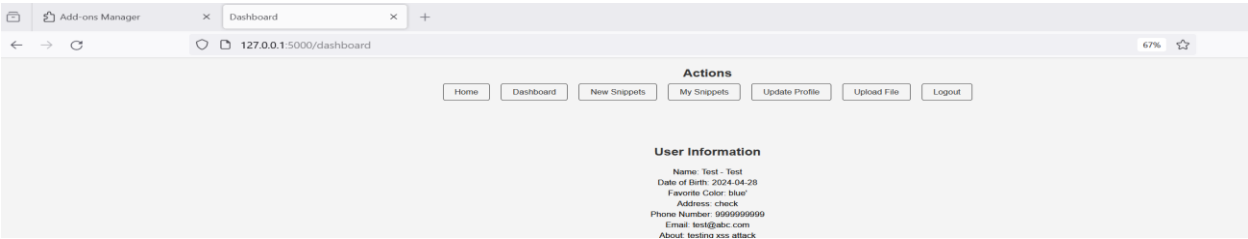
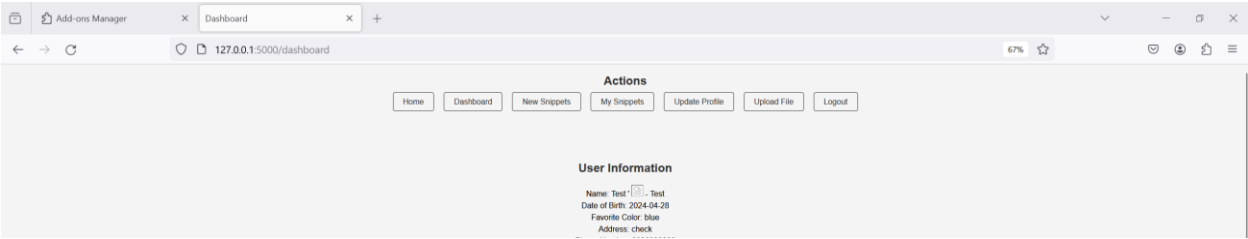


Image:

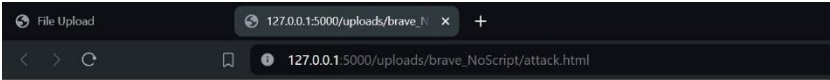




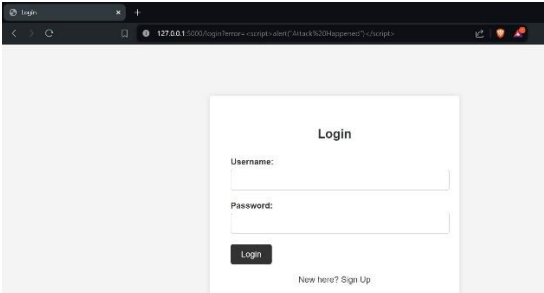


Brave: Attack did not happen.

File Upload:



URL:



Text Box:

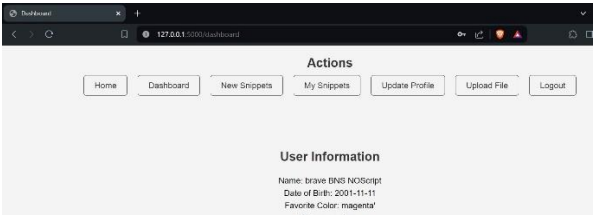
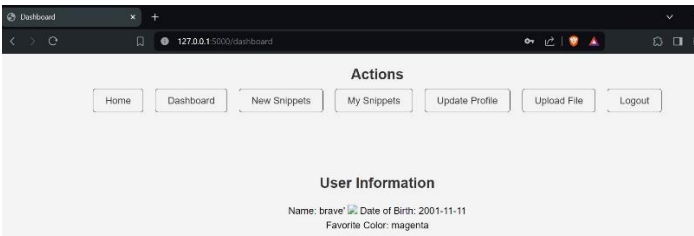
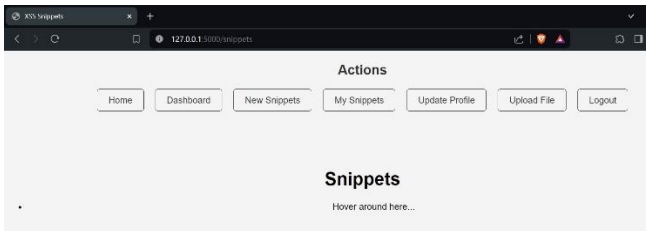


Image:

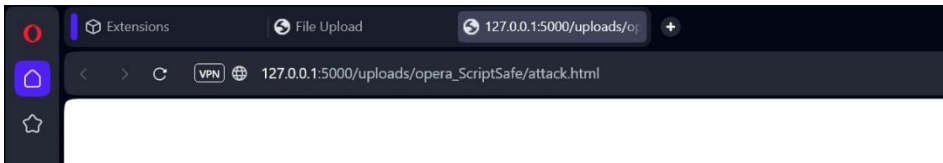


Snippets:

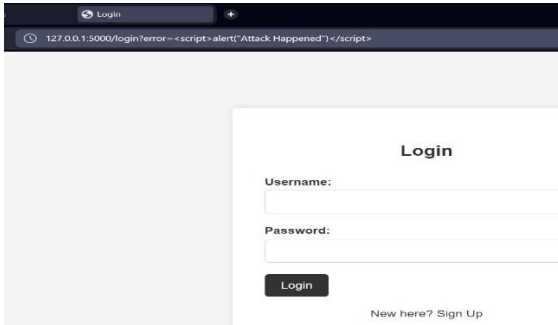


Opera: Attack did not happen.

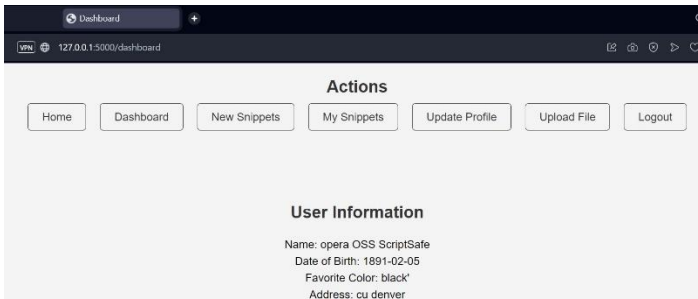
- File Upload:



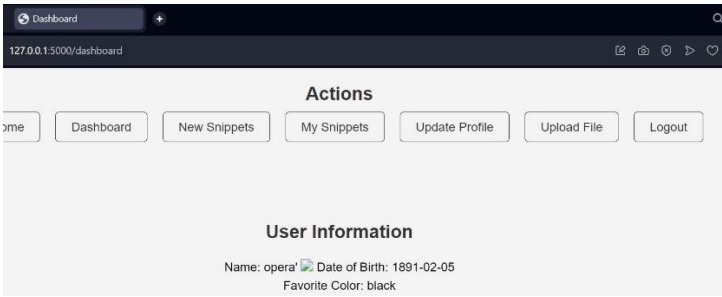
- URL:



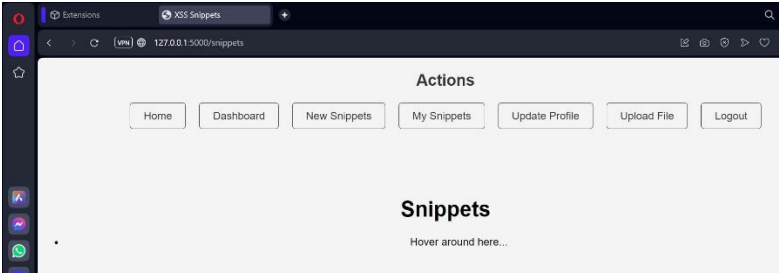
- Text Box:



- Image:

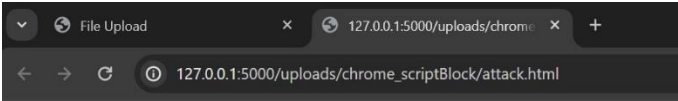


- Snippets:

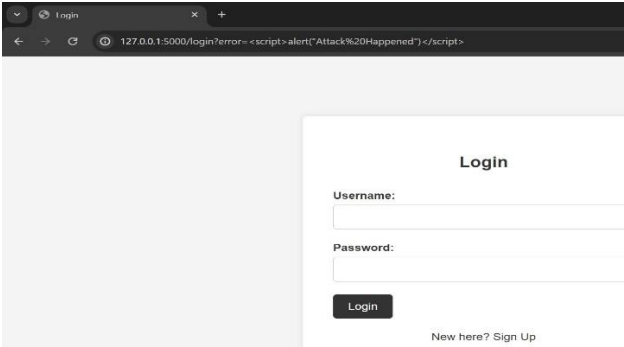


Chrome: Attack did not happen.

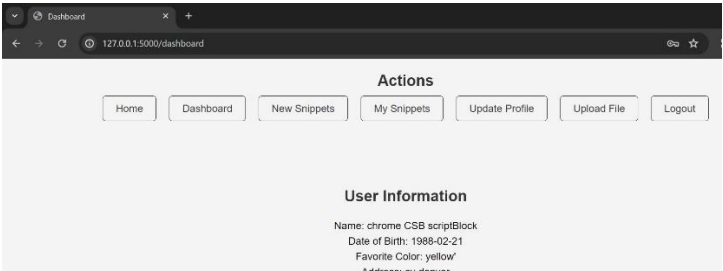
- File Upload:



- URL:



- Text Box:



- Image:

