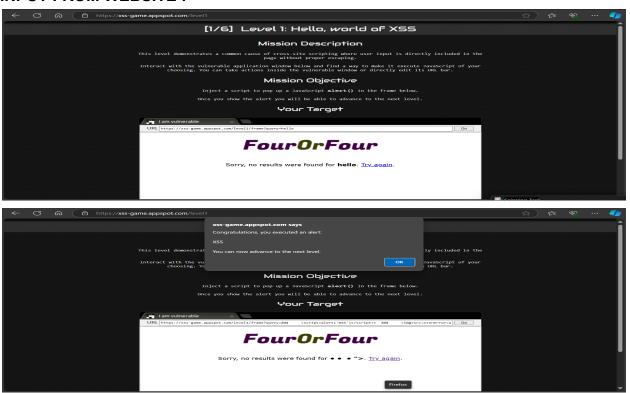
CONDUCTING A CROSS SITE SCRIPTING XXS ATTACK.

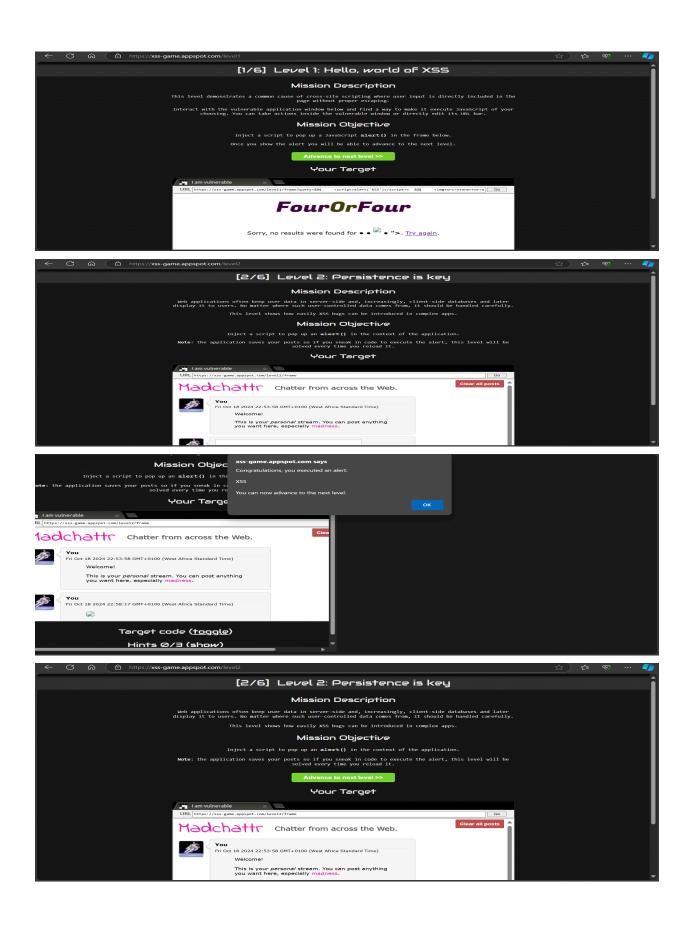
TOOLS: WEB BROWSER

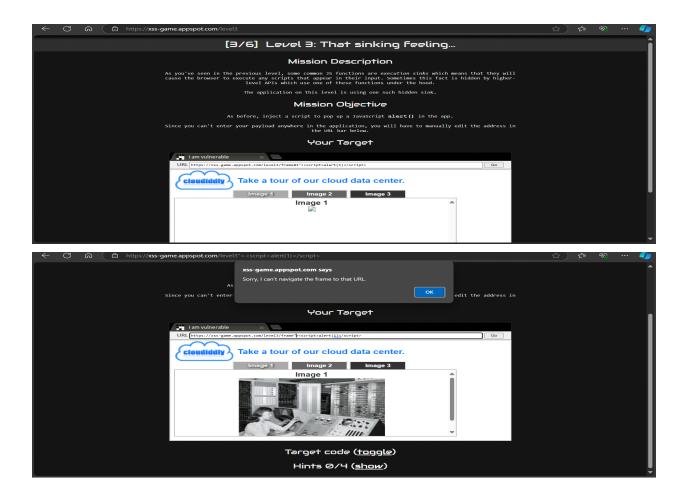
Project-Site: xss-game.appspot.com

XXS is a common vulnerability in web applications and is frequently listed as a top vulnerability in the OWASP top ten. XXS occurs when web applications execute JavaScript, which is input into the form sections of a web application. The applications perform no security checks on the entered data. It simply passes it straight to the server, causing inputted JavaScript to execute.

INPUT FROM WEBSITE:







RESULT FOR CONDUCTING CROSS SITE SCRIPTING (XXS) ATTACK ON XSS-GAME.APPSPOT.COM

STEPS TAKEN:

After navigating to the website that we would be carrying the attack on we tried some words like **[HELLO]** on the search bar. This helps us know that the application is vulnerable to XXS, as our input is directly reflected in the output of the search result.

Now we want to execute the XXS attack, we start by entering this script in the search box {<script>alert('XSS')</script>} This will cause an alert text box to pop up on our screen with "1" on it. We have successfully executed an XXS attack.

Now we are presented with a forum page for level 2. The script we entered for level 1 will not work here. We need to first enter a HTML tag which will adopt the script we entered in level 1, so that every time this page is visited and the tag is loaded, the XXS attack will run. This is a method of achieving a persistent XXS

attack on a site. For this the script we would be using is {} This bit of HTML is loading an image, which doesn't exist into the forum. Every time there is an error, the JavaScript alert will run. Considering that the image doesn't exist and that it will be loaded every time a user visits the forum, the JavaScript alert will always run.

To protect a website from XSS attacks:

- 1. Input Validation: Sanitize and whitelist user input to remove harmful characters.
- 2. Output Encoding: Encode data before rendering it on the page (HTML, JavaScript).
- 3. HTTP-Only and Secure Cookies: Use HttpOnly and Secure flags on cookies to prevent access via JavaScript and ensure they're sent over HTTPS.
- 4. Content Security Policy (CSP): Implement CSP to restrict script sources and prevent inline scripts.
- 5. Avoid Inline JavaScript: Use external scripts instead of inline event handlers.
- 6. Use Secure Frameworks: Leverage frameworks with built-in XSS protection.