

# SECURITY IN THE AGE OF FRAMEWORKS

LUKA KLADARIC // L@K.HR // @KLL

P A R E N T A L

A D V I S O R Y

E X P L I C I T   C O N T E N T

**ONCE UPON A TIME...**

**WE WROTE OUR OWN CODE**

ALL OF IT.

SO WE KNEW **WHAT WAS IN IT.**  
WE KNEW **EVERY LITTLE BIT.**

# WHO IS THIS GUY?

Luka Kladaric (1985)  
started doing web stuff around 1997

javascript before jQuery  
server-side with ASP/VBScript (~1999)

ran away to PHP (~2002)

ran away to Python (~2013)

ran away to devops

TODAY WE **'KNOW BETTER'** THAN TO  
CODE EVERYTHING **FROM SCRATCH**

SO WE RELY ON **FRAMEWORKS**

AND LIBRARIES  
& A BUNCH OF **3RD PARTY CODE**

WE OUTSOURCE **AUTHENTICATION...**

# LOGGING...

# DATABASE INTERACTION...

# API CONNECTIVITY...

EVERYTHING THAT ISN'T **STRICTLY UNIQUE**  
TO THE PROBLEM WE'RE SOLVING

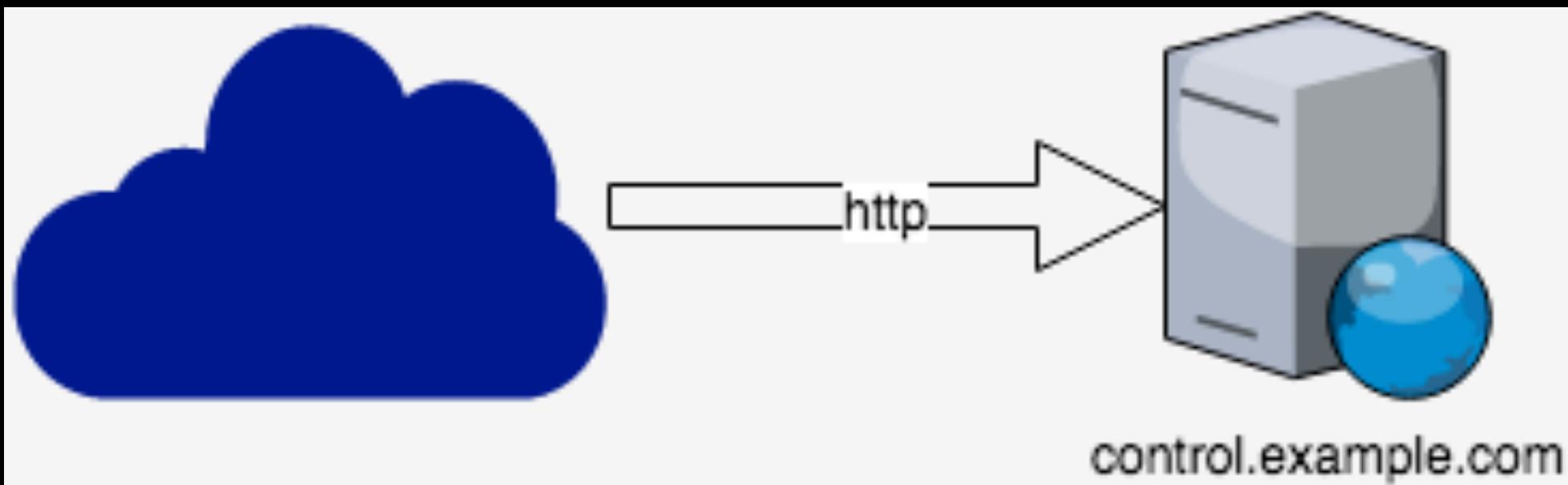
THIS PRESENTS A **RTFM** PROBLEM

# HOW DOES THIS PROBLEM MANIFEST ITSELF?

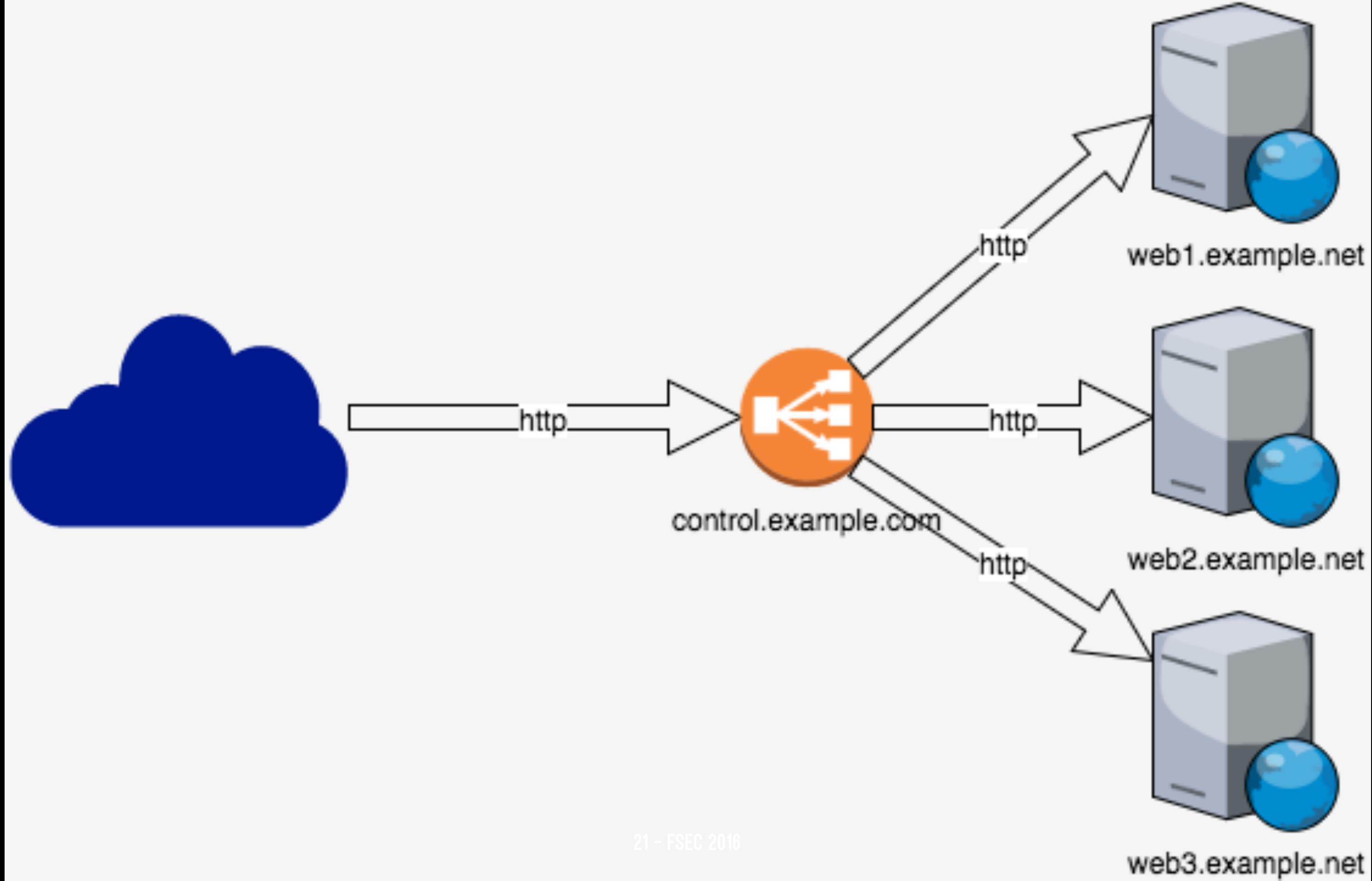
# **STORY TIME! (DEMO 1)**

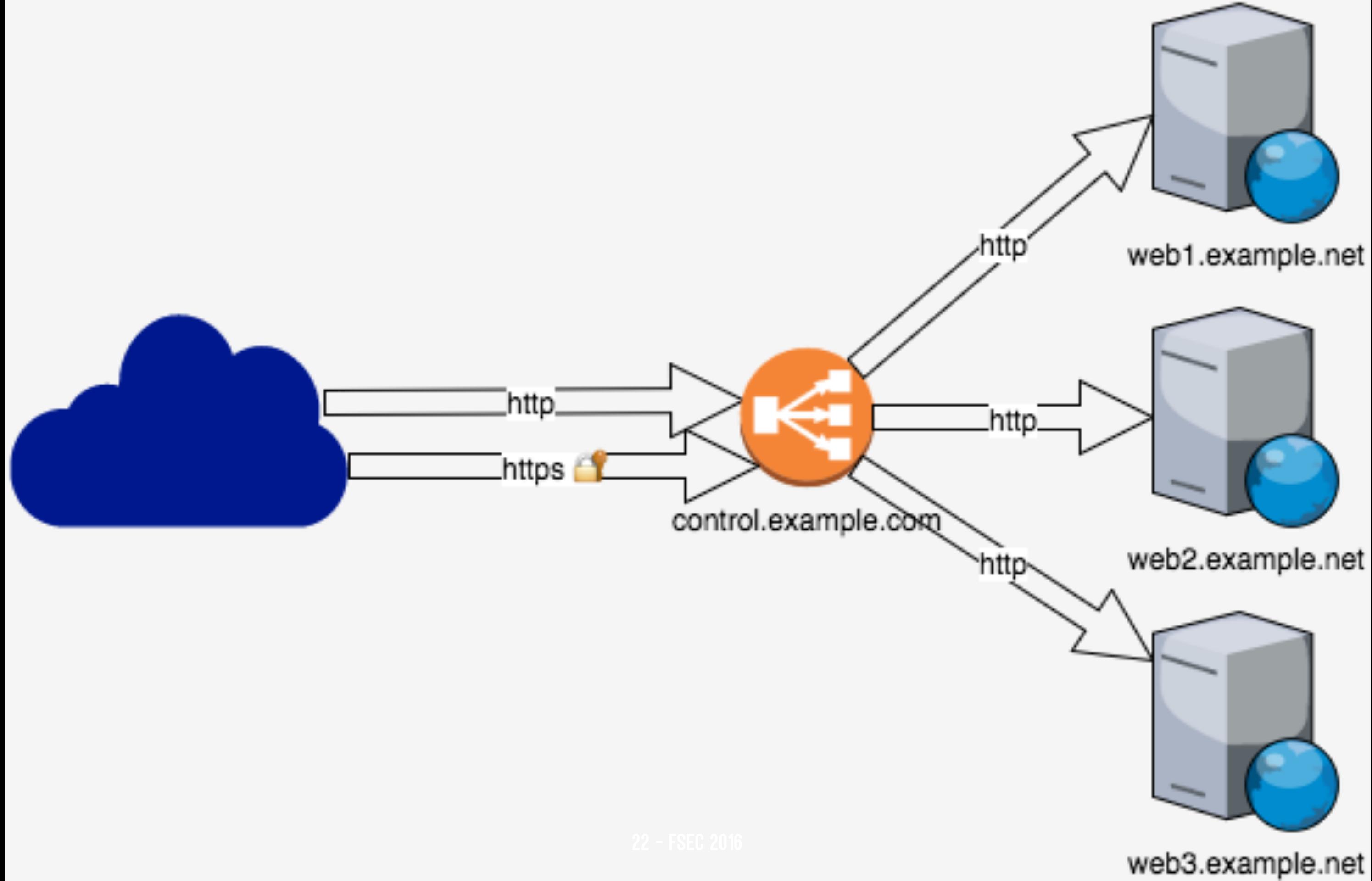
# EXAMPLE CO BUILDS THEIR FIRST WEBAPP

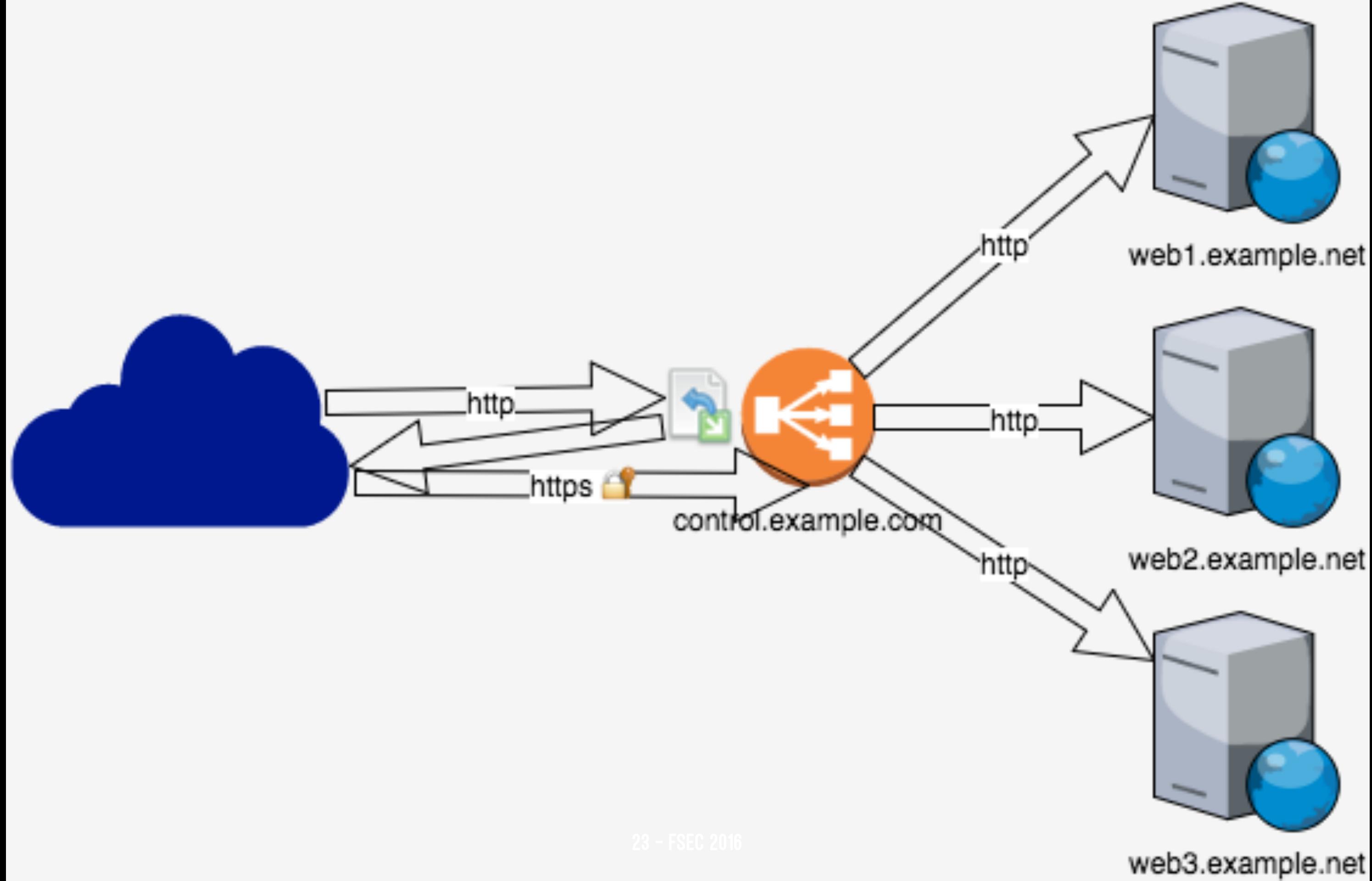
- › AN INTERNAL DASHBOARD AT **CONTROL.EXAMPLE.COM**



- › AUTHENTICATION?







BUT IF THE SERVERS ONLY EVER SEE **HTTP**.  
HOW WILL THEY KNOW ABOUT **HTTPS**?

**SPOILER: THEY WON'T**  
**(NOT BY DEFAULT ANYWAY)**

# WHAT WE'D LIKE TO SEE

```
$ curl -sIL http://control.example.com
HTTP/1.0 302 Found
Location: https://control.example.com/
Server: BigIP

HTTP/1.1 302 FOUND
Server: nginx/1.4.6 (Ubuntu)
Location: https://control.example.com/login/?next=%2F

HTTP/1.1 302 FOUND
Server: nginx/1.4.6 (Ubuntu)
Location: https://accounts.google.com/o/oauth2/auth?redirect\_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fcontrol.example.com%2Flogin%2Fauthorized

[... user logs in & grants example.com access to google account...]

HTTP/1.1 302 FOUND
Server: GSE
Location: https://control.example.com/login/authorized?code=ACCESS\_TOKEN
```

```
$ curl -sIL http://control.example.com
HTTP/1.0 302 Found
Location: https://control.example.com/
Server: BigIP
```

```
HTTP/1.1 302 FOUND
Server: nginx/1.4.6 (Ubuntu)
Location: http://control.example.com/login/?next=%2F
```

```
HTTP/1.0 302 Found
Location: https://control.example.com/login/?next=%2F
Server: BigIP
```

```
HTTP/1.1 302 FOUND
Server: nginx/1.4.6 (Ubuntu)
Location: https://accounts.google.com/o/oauth2/auth
          ?redirect_uri=http%3A%2F%2Fcontrol.example.com%2Flogin%2Fauthorized
```

```
[... user logs in & grants example.com access to google account...]
```

```
HTTP/1.1 302 FOUND
Server: GSE
Location: http://control.example.com/login/authorized?code=ACCESS_TOKEN
```

**FIXES:**

- › **RESPECT X-FORWARDED-PROTO HEADER**

**WATCH OUT FOR VARIOUS COMPONENTS  
TREATING SECURITY HEADERS DIFFERENTLY**

> SSL CONFIG CHANGE TRIGGERS AUDIT

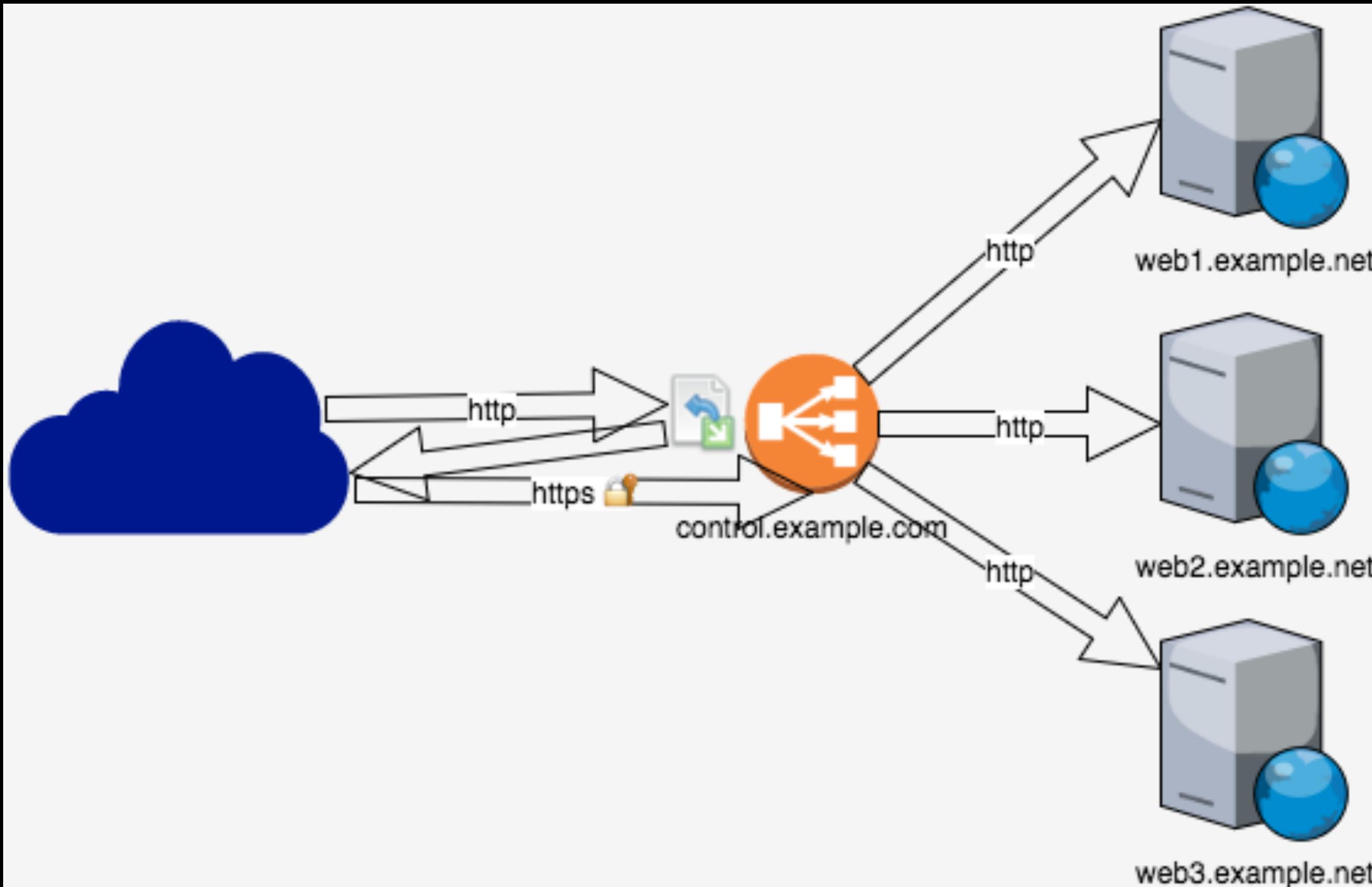
- > REMOVE HTTP FROM OAUTH WHITELIST

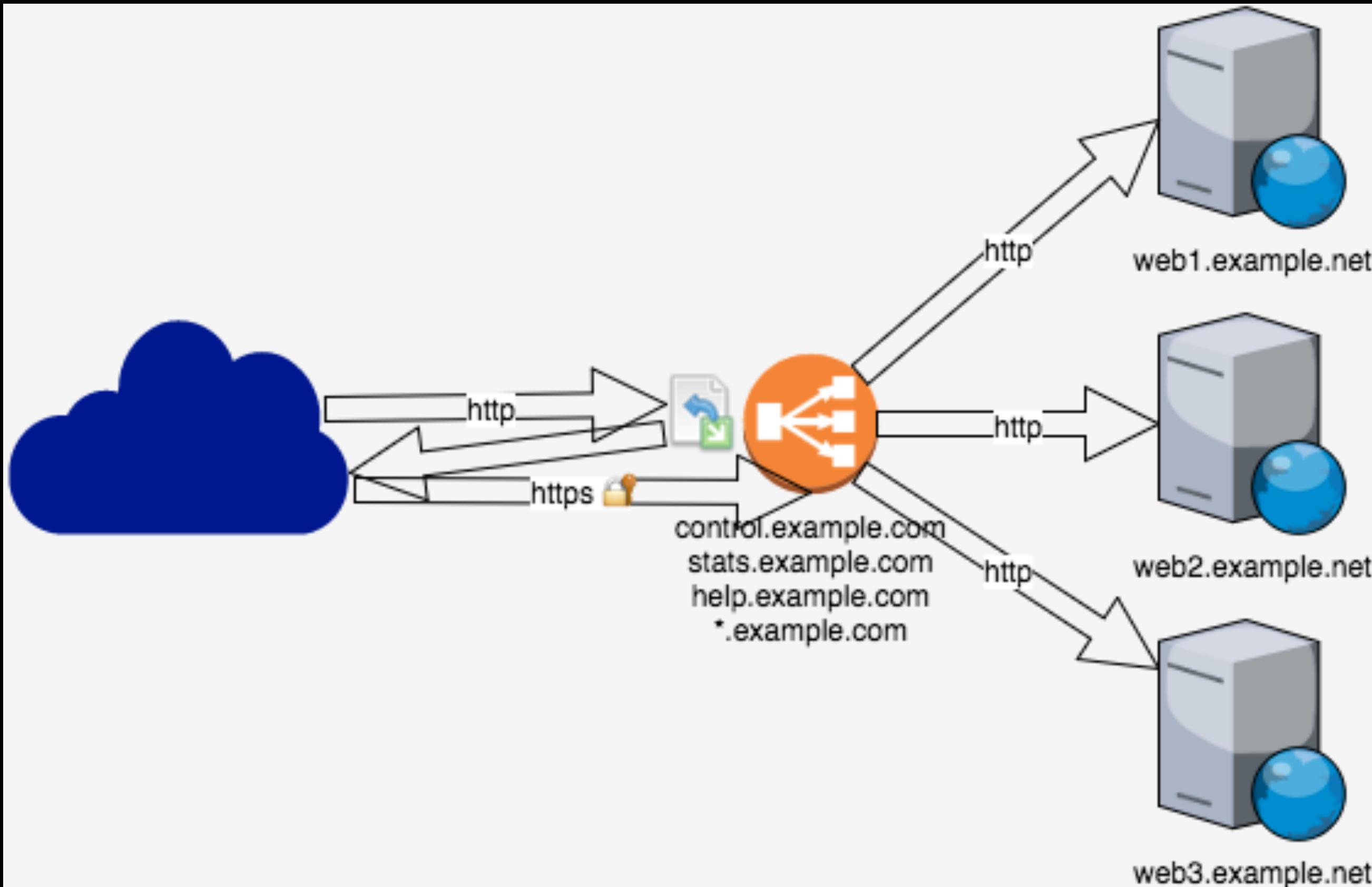
> HSTS HEADERS<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> HTTP STRICT TRANSPORT SECURITY

**DIFFICULT TO CATCH. BROWSERS DON'T  
REPORT THIS AS BAD BEHAVIOR**

# STORY TIME! (DEMO 2)





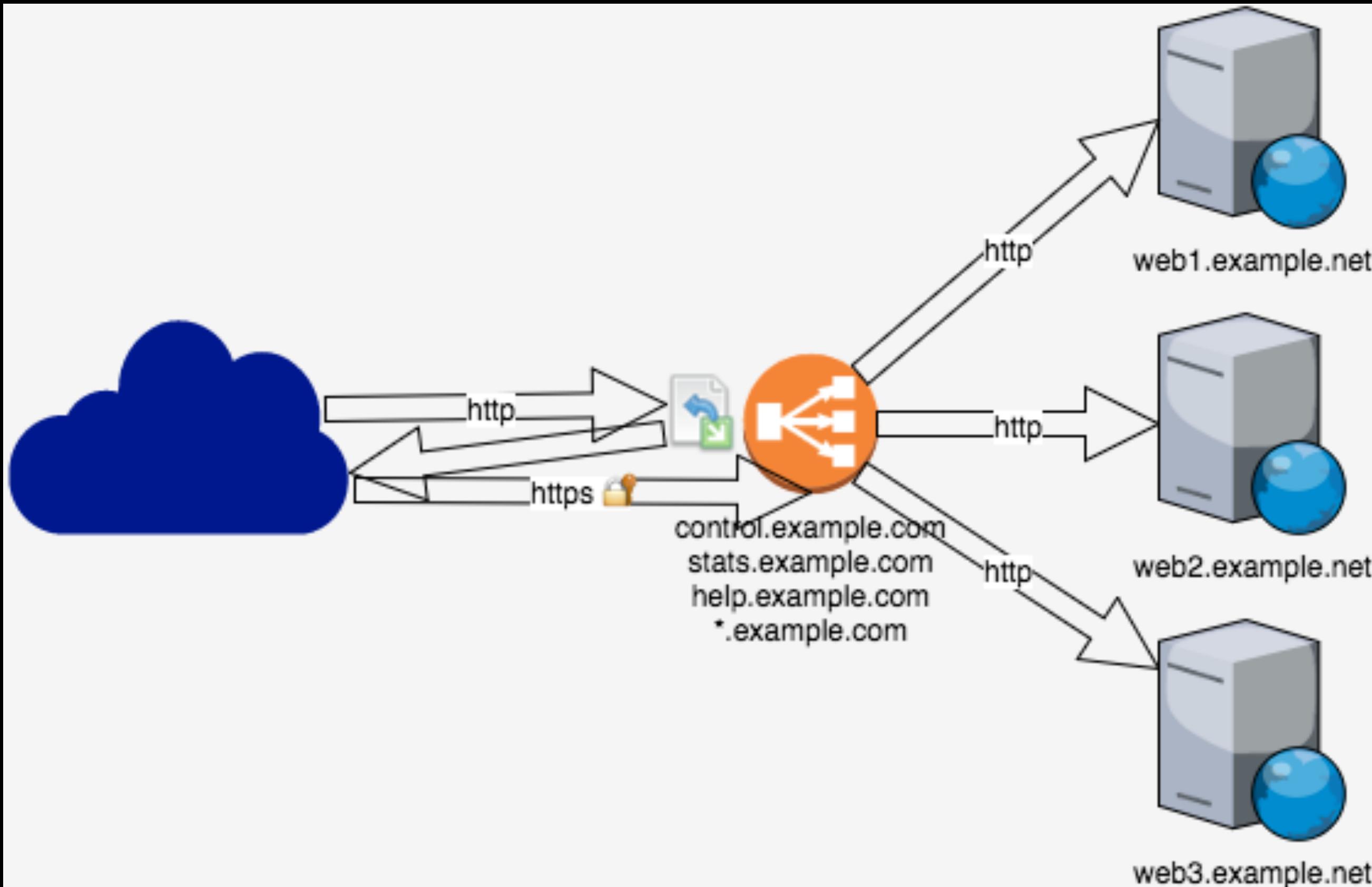
# IF YOU'VE EVER SET UP OAUTH

# FOR MULTIPLE APPS

# AGAINST THE SAME PROVIDER

**... DID YOU BOTHER SETTING UP  
SEPARATE OAUTH CLIENTS?**

YEAH.



# STORY TIME! (DEMO 3)

Cookie:

session=.eJxljssKgkAYRl8l\_rWJl1ScnW  
kLC8msaBEik046po7YGF7w3Su3bg7f4vBxR  
M1Zl-C6g3BpcVqS6M1xWQ0SN4ZqKrJqatMX  
y0NLzg.CrvTRg.5bTUddcAEVMFMth\_I  
uPteZT00jA; HttpOnly; Path=/

# HOW IS COOKIE SIGNED

# FLASK

## **secret\_key**

If a secret key is set, cryptographic components can use this to sign cookies and other things. Set this to a complex random value when you want to use the secure cookie for instance.

This attribute can also be configured from the config with the `SECRET_KEY` configuration key. Defaults to `None`.

# DJANGO

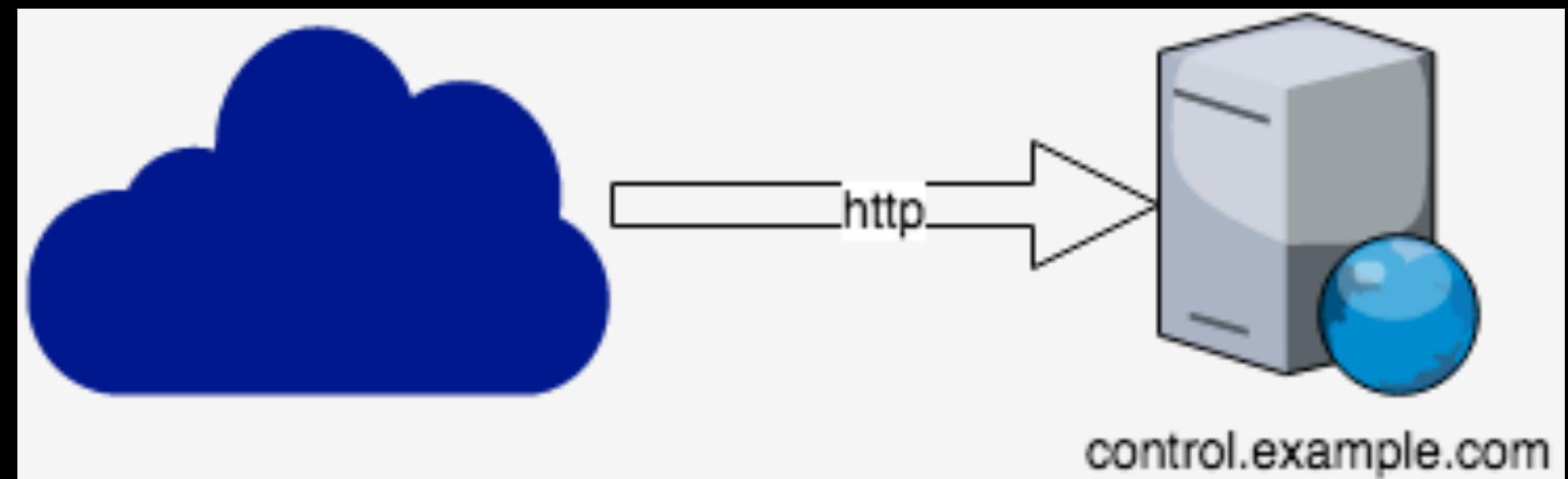
## **SECRET\_KEY**

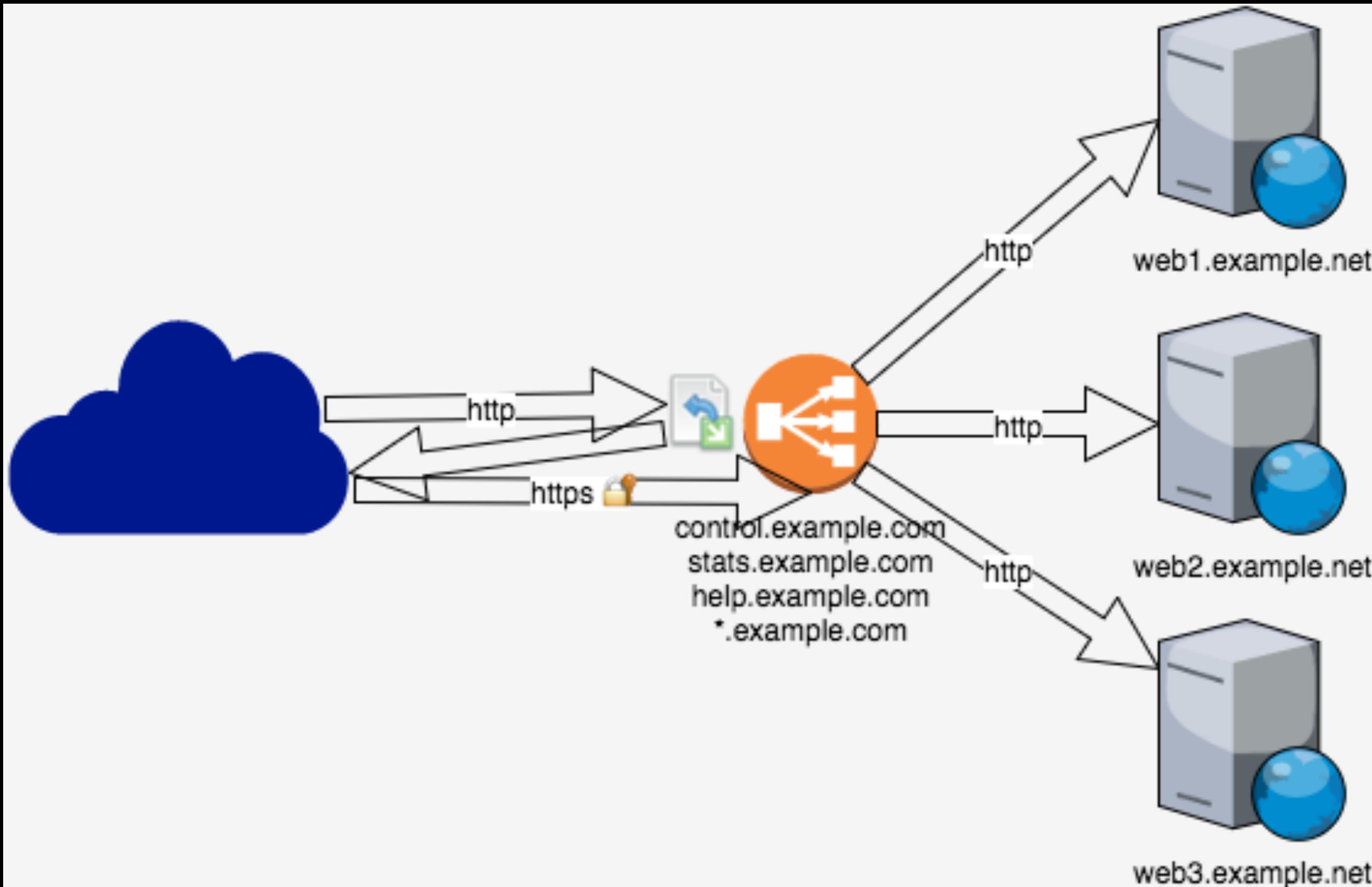
Default: '' (Empty string)

A secret key for a particular Django installation. This is used to provide [cryptographic signing](#), and should be set to a unique, unpredictable value.

[\*\*django-admin startproject\*\*](#) automatically adds a randomly-generated **SECRET\_KEY** to each new project.

Django will refuse to start if **SECRET\_KEY** is not set.





**SECRET\_KEY BEING CONFIGURED  
BADLY IS NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TO CATCH**

**ALL OF THESE COMBINED MEAN:**

# SPEAR PHISHING VECTOR

# PRIVILEGE ESCALATION

# FORCED INSECURE COMMS

**ATTACKER TRAFFIC INDISTINGUISHABLE  
FROM REGULAR TRAFFIC**

**THE LB HERE ISN'T TO BLAME**

**PEOPLE HAVE ANCIENT BOOKMARKS POINTING TO HTTP**

**ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL BUT RUNNING  
ON A SINGLE MACHINE THIS WOULD  
STILL BE A VULNERABLE SETUP**

**HSTS IS A MUST**

# STORY TIME! (DEMO 4)

**CSRF PROTECTION DISABLED**

**YUP. FOUND THIS ONE TOO.**

IT COMES WITH THE THING  
LEAVE CSRF PROTECTION  
ALONE

# TAKEAWAYS

UNDERSTAND THE STUFF YOU USE BETTER.

**BE MORE VIGILANT WITH CODE REVIEWS  
ON SECURITY-IMPACTING STUFF**

**BRING IN A FRESH PAIR OF EYES  
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE**

**THIS TALK IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT  
TO ROLL EVERYTHING YOURSELF.**

# THANK YOU

LUKA KLADARIC // L@K.HR // @KLL