

Embedded System & Embedded Linux Development Part 11

Index of today's topic



- CGI (Common Gateway Interface)
- HTML form & HTTP header
- Use CGI in FL6410

CGI (Common Gateway Interface)

- CGI
 - is a standard (see RFC 3875: CGI Version 1.1)
 - defines how web server software can delegate the generation of web pages to a stand-alone application, an executable file

Mechanism of CGI



Web Server

- Apache
- nginx
- BOA

FL6410 BOA Configuration

For ARM target:

- 1. backup boa
- `#mv /sbin/boa /sbin/bakboa`
- 2. `vi /etc/boa/boa.conf`
- "User nobody" was revised to "User root"
- 3. `mkdir -p /usr/lib/cgi-bin`
- `chmod 777 /usr/lib/cgi-bin`
- 4. put boa to /sbin/boa
- `chmod 777 /sbin/boa`
- 5. put hello.cgi to /usr/lib/cgi-bin/hello.cgi
- `chmod 777 /usr/lib/cgi-bin/hello.cgi`
- 6. before browser the web, should reboot boa or system

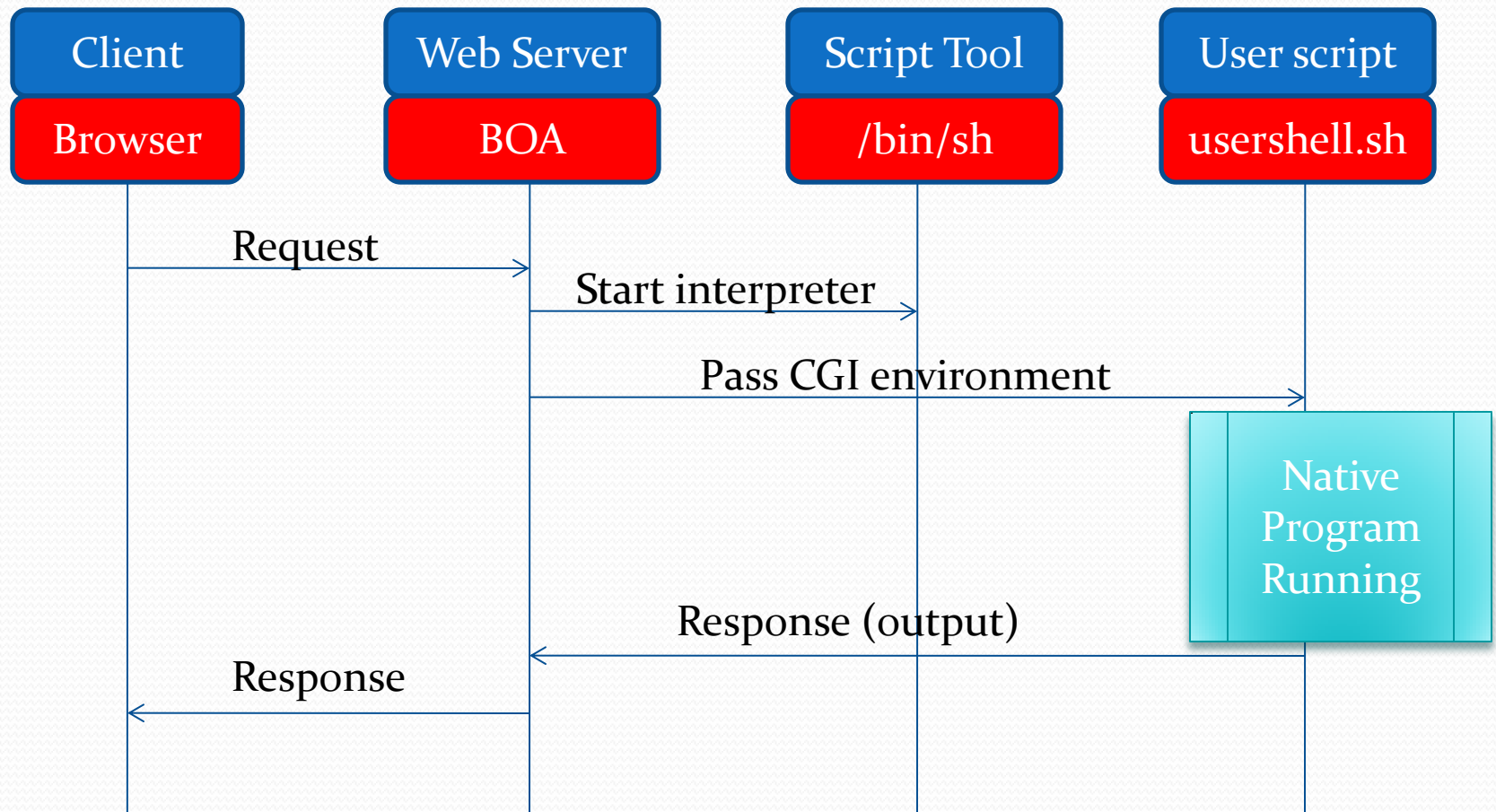
CGI Executable program

- binary executable file (compiled by C/C++)
- shell
- perl
- PHP
- Python
- ...

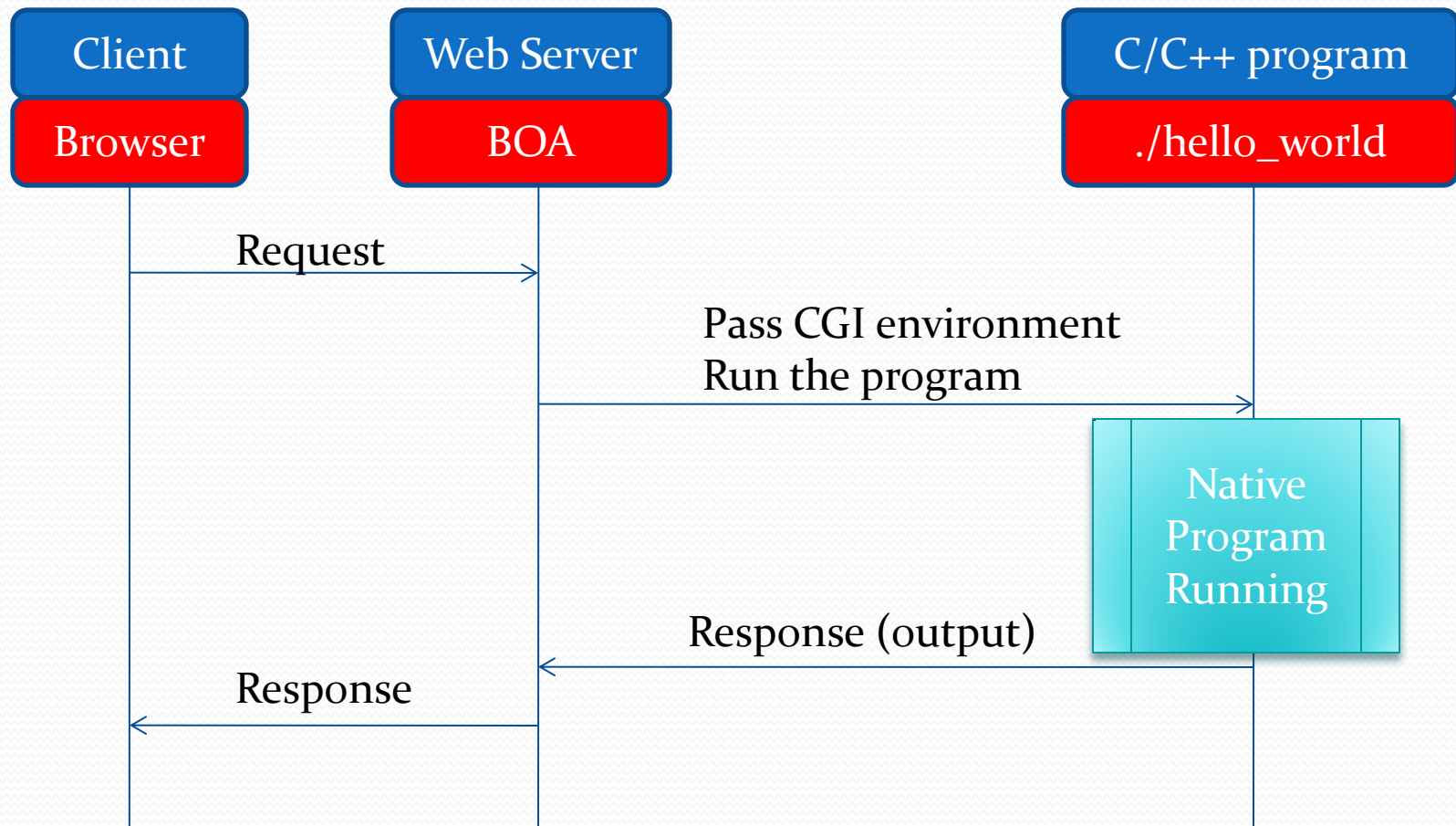
HTML

- The output of an CGI program should be a HTML page
- The browser (client) will display the HTML page

Data flow



Data flow



Output of CGI program

- Use **stdout** as the output to the web browser
- The output should follow HTTP protocol
- Example:
 - `printf("Content-type: text/html; charset=gb2312\n\n");`
 - `printf("hello,world
\n");`

Input of CGI program

- Data is passed into the program using environment variables
- C Language
 - `getenv()` to get the environment variables

Example

- Send following http request to web server:
 - `http://192.168.1.6/testcgi?parameter1=hello¶meter2=world`
- In testcgi
 - `char *query_string = getenv("QUERY_STRING");`
 - `printf("query = %s\n", query_string);`
- output is
 - `query = parameter1=hello¶meter2=world`

Environment Variables in CGI

- GATEWAY_INTERFACE
- HTTP_ACCEPT_CHARSET
- HTTP_ACCEPT_ENCODING
- HTTP_ACCEPT_LANGUAGE
- HTTP_CACHE_CONTROL
- HTTP_HOST
- HTTP_KEEP_ALIVE
- HTTP_USER_AGENT
- **QUERY_STRING**
- REMOTE_ADDR
- REMOTE_PORT
- **REQUEST_METHOD**
- REQUEST_URI
- SCRIPT_NAME
- SERVER_ADDR
- SERVER_ADMIN
- SERVER_NAME
- SERVER_PORT
- SERVER_PROTOCOL
- SERVER_SOFTWARE

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HTTP header

- The output of an http response should contain a header in the beginning of the output stream
- The first line must be content-type
- The second line must be an empty line
 - **content-type: text/html**

Content Type

- HTTP content type is defined in MIME
 - **Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME)**
- Example:
 - **content-type: text/html**
 - **content-type: text/plain**
 - **content-type: image/gif**
 - **content-type: image/jpeg**

HTML form

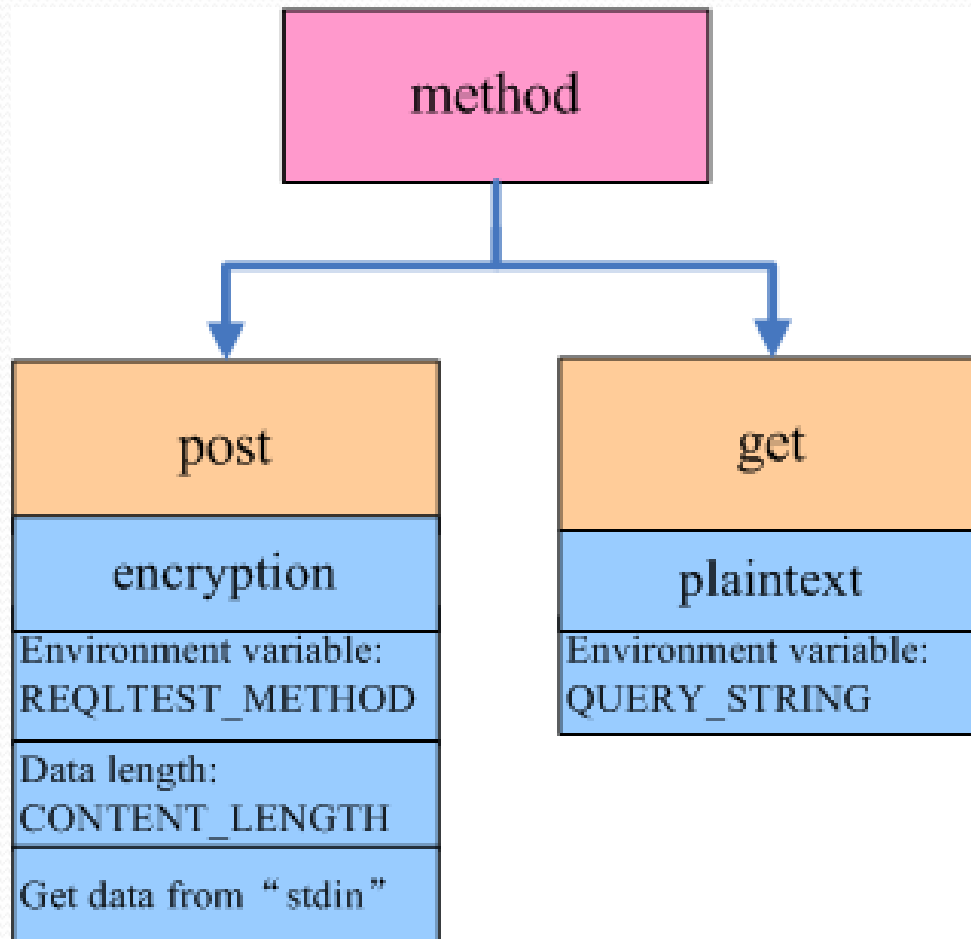
- HTML forms are used to pass data to a server
- It can contain input elements like text fields, checkboxes, radio-buttons, submit buttons and more. A form can also contain select lists, textarea, fieldset, legend, and label elements
- It has an submit action that is used to send data to a specific server URL

HTML form example

```
<form name="input" action="" method="get">  
  <input type="checkbox" name="LED1" value="1" />  
  LED 1<br/>  
  <input type="checkbox" name="LED2" value="1" />  
  LED 2<br/>  
  <input type="submit" value="Submit" />  
</form>
```

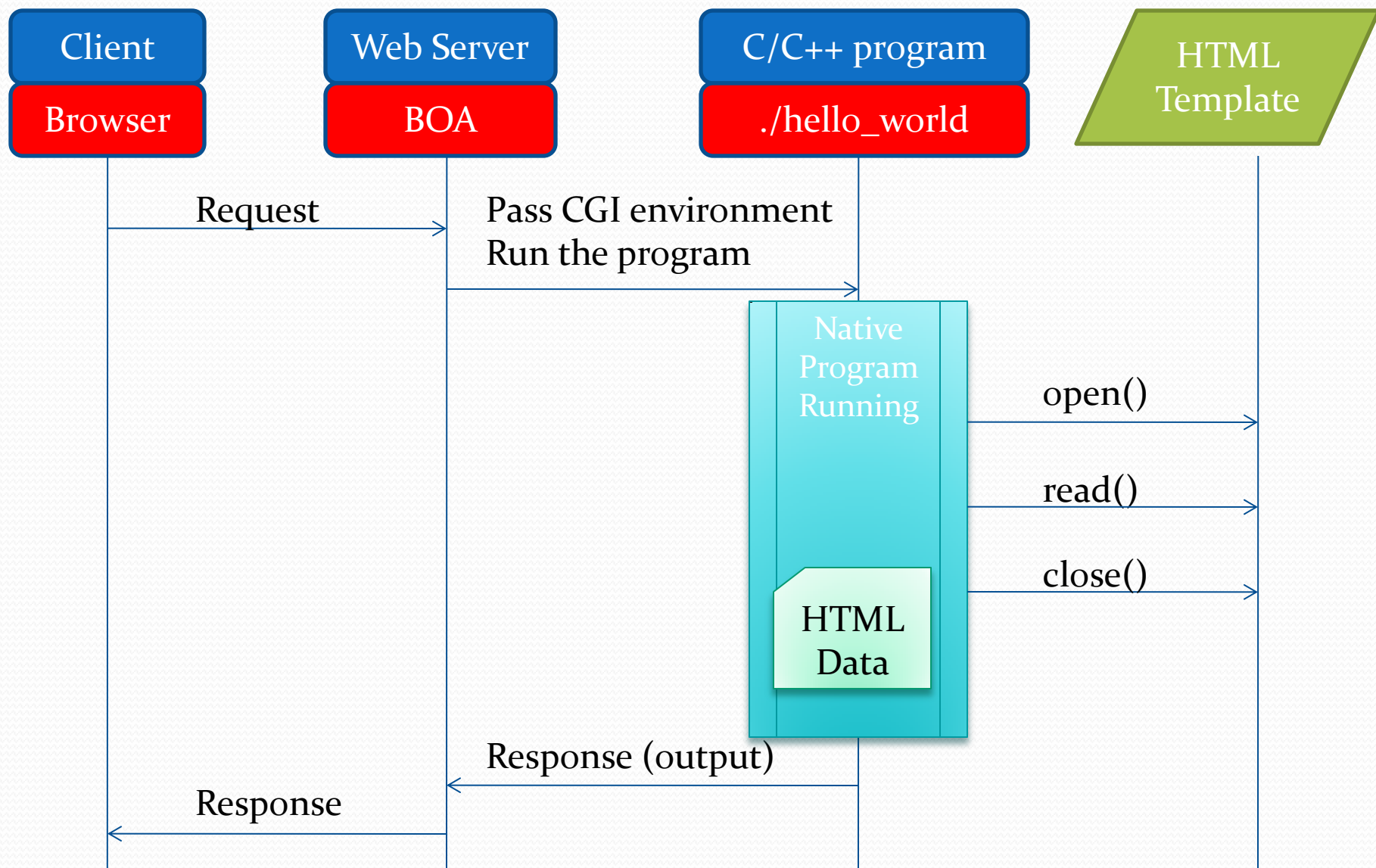
HTTP method

- POST/GET method
 - GET method. The data is stored in QUERY_STRING variable
 - POST method. The data is input from **stdin**.



How C/C++ program manager HTML

- Put a HTML template page in target
- When CGI is executing the C/C++ program, the program should
 - Open the HTML template file
 - Read the content of HTML template file
 - Change the content according to user input(if need)
 - Print to stdout



Why use CGI in Embedded System

- Web based service with very limited resource usage
- Fast, flexible, Easy to develop
- No much requirement in client side
- Often used in network devices

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Web Server on FL6410

- There is a web server named BOA is already installed on FL6410
 - The system resource is too tight to run Apache
- CGI enabled in BOA
 - no PHP, Perl, Python
 - Only sh & binary executable file

URL map

`vim /etc/boa/boa.conf`

```
# DocumentRoot: The root directory of the HTML documents.  
# Comment out to disable server non user files.
```

```
DocumentRoot /usr/local/boa
```

```
# UserDir: The name of the directory which is appended onto a user's home  
# directory if a ~user request is recieved.
```

```
# ScriptAlias: Maps a virtual path to a directory for serving scripts  
# Example: ScriptAlias /htbin/ /www/htbin/
```

```
ScriptAlias /cgi-bin/ /usr/lib/cgi-bin/
```

URL map

- default web root directory is
 - **/usr/local/boa**
- **http://target_ip/hello.html**
 - The web server find **/usr/local/boa/hello.html** and send this page to browser
- Compile your helloworld program and rename it to
 - **helloworld.cgi**
- **http://target_ip/cgi-bin/helloworld.cgi**
 - The web server will try to run **/usr/lib/cgi-bin/helloworld.cgi** program and send the output(stdout) to browser

HTML sample

Cgi Sample - Windows Internet Explorer

http://10.1.242.56/CgiSample.html

文件(F) 编辑(E) 查看(V) 收藏夹(A) 工具(T) 帮助(H)

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Cgi Sample

Get Sample:

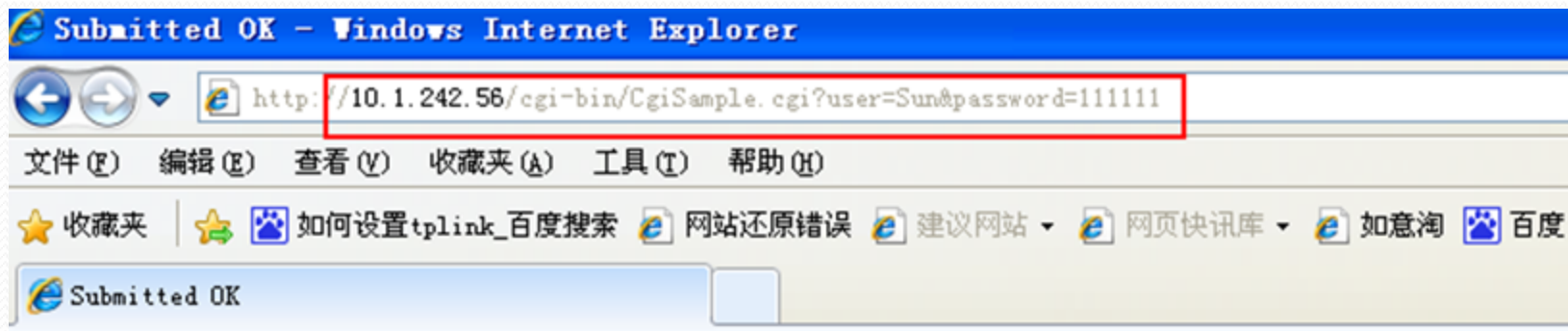
Username: Passwd:

[Sample 2](#)
[Sample 3](#)

Post Sample:

Username: Passwd:

HTML sample



hello test

OK the method is GET!

Rcv Data : user=Sun&password=111111 The information you supplied has been accepted.

HTML sample

Cgi Sample - Windows Internet Explorer

http://10.1.242.56/CgiSample.html

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Cgi Sample

Get Sample:

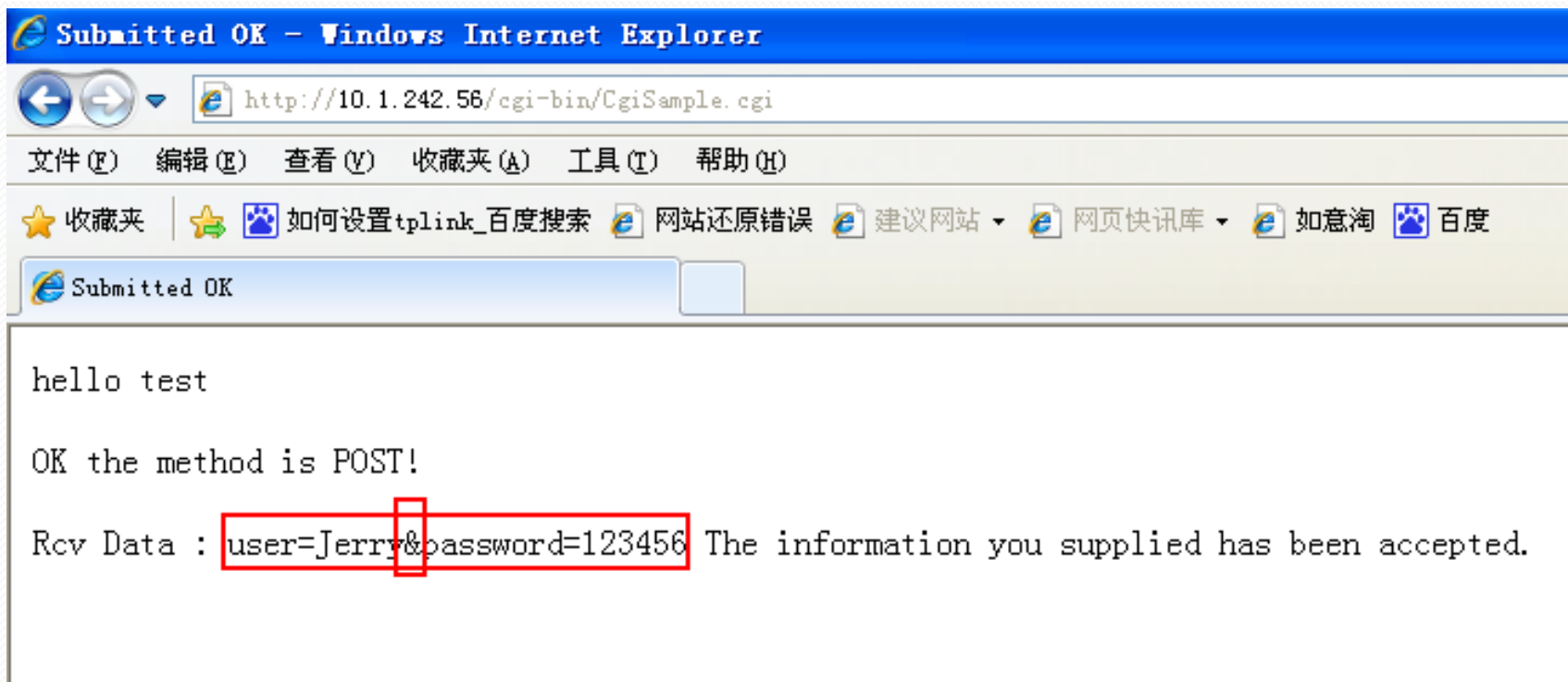
Username: Passwd:

[Sample 2](#)
[Sample 3](#)

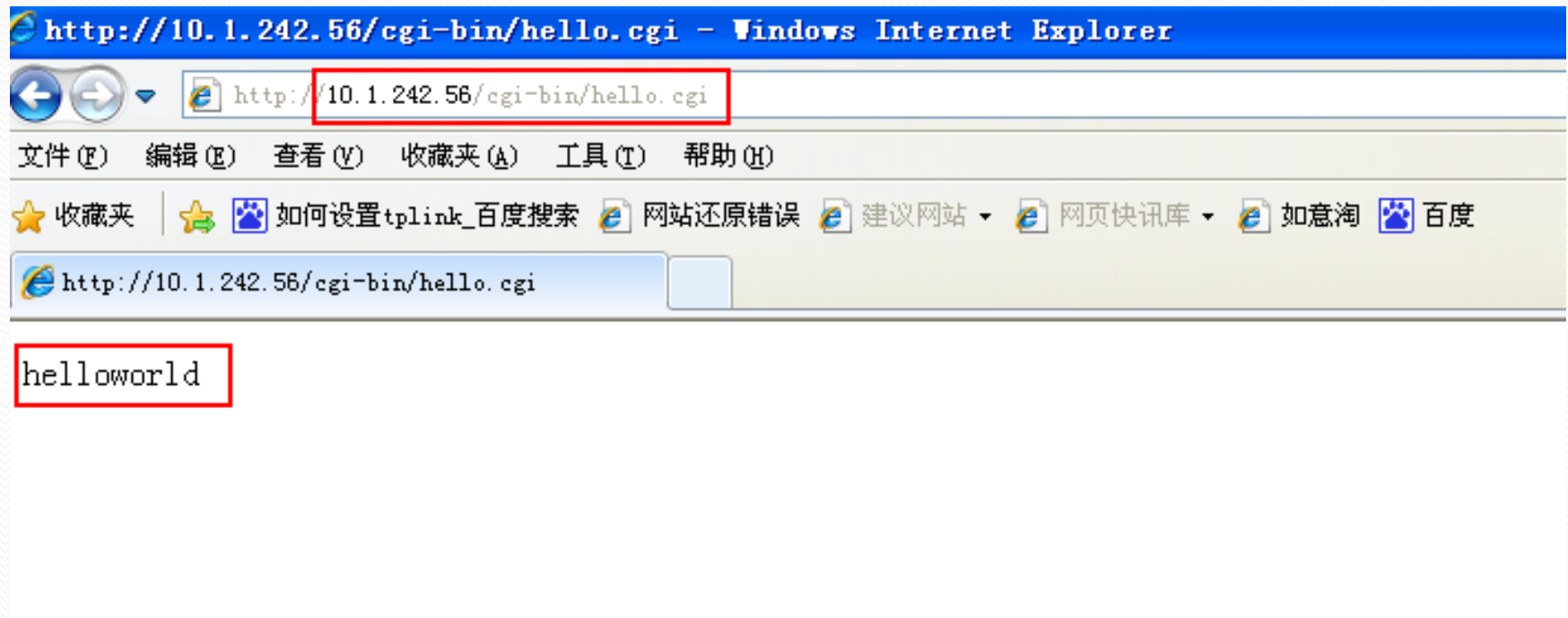
Post Sample:

Username: Passwd:

HTML sample



CGI sample



Hyperlinks



Post Sample:



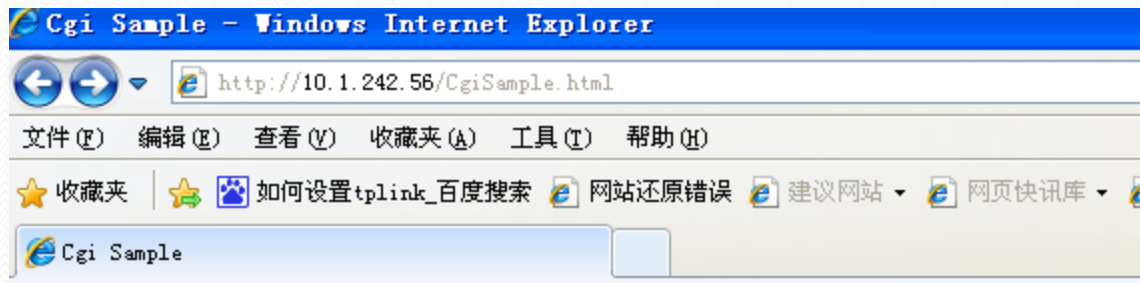
[Sample 2](#)
[Sample 3](#)

Get Sample: hello test

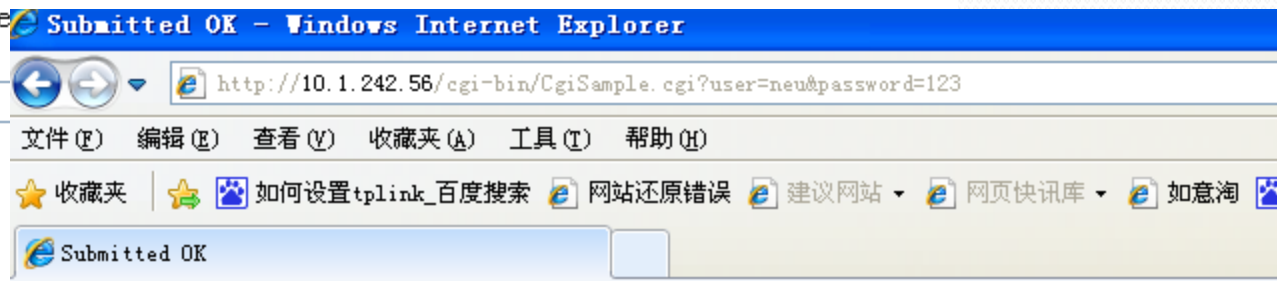
Username: OK the method is GET!

The information you supplied has been accepted.

Hyperlinks



Post Sample



Get Sample: hello test

Username: [OK the method is GET!

Rcv Data : user=neu&password=123 The information you supplied has been accepted

Exercise

- write a CGI program on FL6410
 - output a hello world HTML page
 - within HTML page, put a form with GET method
 - within the form, put 4 check box represent LED₁-LED₄
 - if user submit the form, the program turn ON/OFF LED₁-LED₄ depends on the user's selection

Tips

- For ARM target:
 - 1. put CgiSample.html to /usr/local/boa
 - 2. put CgiSample.cgi to /usr/lib/cgi-bin
- For Host PC
 - 1. access webserver
 - <http://10.1.242.56/CgiSample.html>
 - <http://10.1.242.56/cgi-bin/hello.cgi>