



University of Essex

Online

Launching into Cyber Security

Week 9 Seminar

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Announcement

- Individual essay
- ACM Webinar and articles on ransomware



Announcement

ACM Webinar by US Technology Policy Committee and articles on ransomware: <https://www.acm.org/public-policy/ustpc/hottopics/future-of-us-cybersecurity>

The Politics and Policy of Necessity: Mega-Hacks and the Future of US Cybersecurity -- June 9, 2021



Background

The Cybersecurity 202: The meat industry is the latest to be thrown into chaos by ransomware [↗](#) (Washington Post, June 2, 2021)

The SolarWinds hackers aren't back—they never went away [↗](#) (Ars Technica, May 28, 2021)

Microsoft says group behind SolarWinds hack now targeting government agencies, NGOs [↗](#) (Reuters, May 28, 2021)

Hackers Kept Busy During Covid Stealing 774 Million Records in Major Breaches [↗](#) (Bloomberg, May 18, 2021)

OPINION: Pipeline attack was a warning: Stop cyber threats, or suffer a disaster [↗](#) (The Hill, May 18, 2021)

Colonial hack: How did cyber-attackers shut off pipeline? [↗](#) (BBC, 10 May 2021)

National Institute of Standards and Technology -- Cybersecurity [↗](#)

U.S. Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security



This week's task

- Implementation of security measures such as access controls and privileges.
- Integration of Python and MySQL.
- Manipulating and updating MySQL database using Python scripts.
- Securing password and implementation of authentications with Python



MySQL : security measures

Access control and account management:

- MySQL enables the creation of account to permit users to connect to server to access data.
- Access control is key to be able to connect to a database.
- User account is assigned to authenticate credentials.
- Identity is determined by **host** from which you connect and the **username** you specify.
- MySQL privilege system authenticates a user and associates user to the privileges set on the database.
- System grants privileges according to your identity and what you want to do.



MySQL : security measures

Accounts username and passwords:

- There is no connection between operating system user login and account names used by MySQL.
- Accounts are stored in a table called ***user*** in MySQL system database
- Passwords stored in the ***user*** table are encrypted using plugin specific algorithms.
- MySQL installation process populates ***grant*** tables with an initial root account.



MySQL : security measures

Privileges provided by MySQL:

- Privileges granted to MySQL account determines the operations performed by the account
- Administrative – enable users to manage operations of MySQL server
- Administrative privileges are global – not specific to a particular database
- Database privileges are specific to databases and the objects within it
- Privileges for databases



MySQL : security measures

Privilege	Grant Table Column	Context
<u>ALL [PRIVILEGES]</u>	Synonym for "all privileges"	Server administration
<u>ALTER</u>	Alter_priv	Tables
<u>ALTER ROUTINE</u>	Alter_routine_priv	Stored routines
<u>CREATE</u>	Create_priv	Databases, tables, or indexes
<u>CREATE ROUTINE</u>	Create_routine_priv	Stored routines
<u>CREATE TABLESPACE</u>	Create_tablespace_priv	Server administration
<u>CREATE TEMPORARY TABLES</u>	Create_tmp_table_priv	Tables
<u>CREATE USER</u>	Create_user_priv	Server administration
<u>CREATE VIEW</u>	Create_view_priv	Views
<u>DELETE</u>	Delete_priv	Tables
<u>DROP</u>	Drop_priv	Databases, tables, or views
<u>EVENT</u>	Event_priv	Databases
<u>EXECUTE</u>	Execute_priv	Stored routines
<u>FILE</u>	File_priv	File access on server host
<u>GRANT OPTION</u>	Grant_priv	Databases, tables, or stored routines
<u>INDEX</u>	Index_priv	Tables
<u>INSERT</u>	Insert_priv	Tables or columns
<u>LOCK TABLES</u>	Lock_tables_priv	Databases
<u>PROCESS</u>	Process_priv	Server administration
<u>PROXY</u>	See proxies_priv table	Server administration
<u>REFERENCES</u>	References_priv	Databases or tables
<u>RELOAD</u>	Reload_priv	Server administration
<u>REPLICATION CLIENT</u>	Repl_client_priv	Server administration
<u>REPLICATION SLAVE</u>	Repl_slave_priv	Server administration
<u>SELECT</u>	Select_priv	Tables or columns



MySQL : security measures

Privilege granting guidelines

- **FILE** can be abused to read into a database table any files that the MySQL server can read on the server host.
- The table can then be accessed using **SELECT** to transfer its contents to the client host.
- **GRANT OPTION** enables users to give their privileges to other users.
- Two users that have different privileges and with the **GRANT OPTION** privilege are able to combine privileges.
- **ALTER** may be used to subvert the privilege system by renaming tables.
- **SHUTDOWN** can be abused to deny service to other users entirely by terminating the server.
- **PROCESS** can be used to view the plain text of currently executing statements, including statements that set or change passwords.
- **SUPER** can be used to terminate other sessions or change how the server operates.



MySQL : security measures

The Grant tables:

- user: user accounts, global privileges, and other non-privilege columns.
- db: database-level privileges.
- tables_priv: table-level privileges.
- columns_priv: column-level privileges.
- procs_priv: stored procedure and function privileges.
- proxies_priv: proxy-user privileges.



MySQL : security measures

```
mysql> show databases;
+-----+
| Database          |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| mysql              |
| performance_schema |
+-----+
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> 
```



MySQL : security measures

```
mysql> use mysql;  
Database changed  
mysql> show tables;
```

Tables_in_mysql
columns_priv
db
event
func
general_log
help_category
help_keyword
help_relation
help_topic
host
ndb_binlog_index
plugin
proc
procs_priv
proxies_priv
servers
slow_log
tables_priv
time_zone
time_zone_leap_second
time_zone_name
time_zone_transition
time_zone_transition_type
user

```
24 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> █
```



MySQL : security measures

```
mysql> describe db;
```

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
Host	char(60)	NO	PRI		
Db	char(64)	NO	PRI		
User	char(16)	NO	PRI		
Select_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Insert_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Update_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Delete_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Drop_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Grant_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
References_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Index_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Alter_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_tmp_table_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Lock_tables_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_view_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Show_view_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_routine_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Alter_routine_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Execute_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Event_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Trigger_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	

```
22 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> █
```



MySQL : security measures

Scope columns

```
mysql> describe user;
```

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
Host	char(60)	NO	PRI		
User	char(16)	NO	PRI		
Password	char(41)	NO			
Select_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Insert_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Update_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Delete_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Drop_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Reload_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Shutdown_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Process_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
File_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Grant_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
References_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Index_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Alter_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Show_db_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Super_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_tmp_table_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Lock_tables_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Execute_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Repl_slave_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Repl_client_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_view_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Show_view_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_routine_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Alter_routine_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_user_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Event_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Trigger_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_tablespace_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
ssl_type	enum('','ANY','X509','SPECIFIED')	NO			
ssl_cipher	blob	NO		NULL	
x509_issuer	blob	NO		NULL	
x509_subject	blob	NO		NULL	
max_questions	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_updates	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_connections	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_user_connections	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
plugin	char(64)	YES			
authentication_string	text	YES		NULL	

```
42 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```



MySQL : security measures

```
mysql> describe user;
```

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
Host	char(60)	NO	PRI		
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Repl_slave_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Repl_client_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_view_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Show_view_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_routine_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Alter_routine_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_user_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Event_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Trigger_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
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max_updates	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_connections	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_user_connections	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
plugin	char(64)	YES			
authentication_string	text	YES		NULL	

Privilege columns

```
42 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```



MySQL : security measures

```
mysql> describe user;
```

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
Host	char(60)	NO	PRI		
User	char(16)	NO	PRI		
Password	char(41)	NO			
Select_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Insert_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
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Create_user_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Event_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
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max_connections	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_user_connections	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
plugin	char(64)	YES			
authentication_string	text	YES		NULL	

```
42 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

Security columns



MySQL : security measures

How to specify account names:

- Syntax: **CREATE USER** '*user_name*' @ '*host_name*' .
- Note: 'me'@'localhost' **not** 'me@localhost'
- The **user** table contains one row for each account
- The **User** and **Host** columns store the username and host name
- Hostname part of the account can have:
 - computer or device name
 - IP address
 - Wildcards: % or _ e.g '198.51.100.%'



MySQL : security measures

How to specify account names – hostname examples

- `198.0.0.0/255.0.0.0`: Any host on the 198 class A network
- `198.51.100.0/255.255.0.0`: Any host on the 198.51 class B network
- `198.51.100.0/255.255.255.0`: Any host on the 198.51.100 class C network
- `198.51.100.1`: Only the host with this specific IP address



Network classification basics

- **Class A** network has subnet mask **255.0.0.0** with first octet range 0 - 127.

- ✓ E.g IP **124.52.36.11**. First octet is 124 (between 1 and 126).

- **Class B** network has subnet mask **255.255.0.0** with first octet range 128 - 191.

- ✓ E.g **129.16.52.63**. First octet is 129 (between 128 and 191)

- **Class C** network has subnet mask **255.255.255.0** with first octet range 192-223.

- ✓ E.g **192.168.123.132**. First octet is 192 (between 192 and 223)

Adapted from: <https://www.vskills.in/certification/tutorial/a-b-and-c-classes-of-networks/>



MySQL : security measures

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Drop_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Reload_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Shutdown_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Process_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
File_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
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Show_view_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_routine_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Alter_routine_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_user_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Event_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
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x509_subject	blob	NO		NULL	
max_questions	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_updates	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_connections	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
max_user_connections	int(11) unsigned	NO		0	
plugin	char(64)	YES			
authentication_string	text	YES		NULL	

```
42 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```



MySQL : security measures

Example:

```
CREATE USER 'david'@'198.51.100.0/255.255.255.0';
```



MySQL : security measures

The root account

- All privileges
- Access to the root

➤ `mysql -u root -p`

➤ Enter password: *(enter root password here)*



MySQL : security measures

Assigning password to accounts:

```
CREATE USER 'jsmith'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password';
```

Changing password:

```
ALTER USER 'jsmith'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password';
```



MySQL : security measures

Encrypted connections:

- Server-side
- Client-side
- Mandatory



MySQL : security measures

Server-side encrypted connections:

➤ Update system variables in my.cnf file with these lines

[mysqld]

- `ssl_ca=ca.pem` ##path name for the CA certificate file
- `ssl_cert=server-cert.pem` ## the path name for the **public** key certificate file
- `ssl_key=server-key.pem` ## the path name for the server **private** key file



MySQL : security measures

Client-side encrypted connections:

- Client programs attempt to establish an encrypted connection if the server supports encrypted connections by default

```
mysql --ssl-mode=PREFERRED
```

```
mysql --ssl-mode=REQUIRED
```



MySQL : security measures

Mandatory encrypted connections:

Update system variables in my.cnf file with these lines

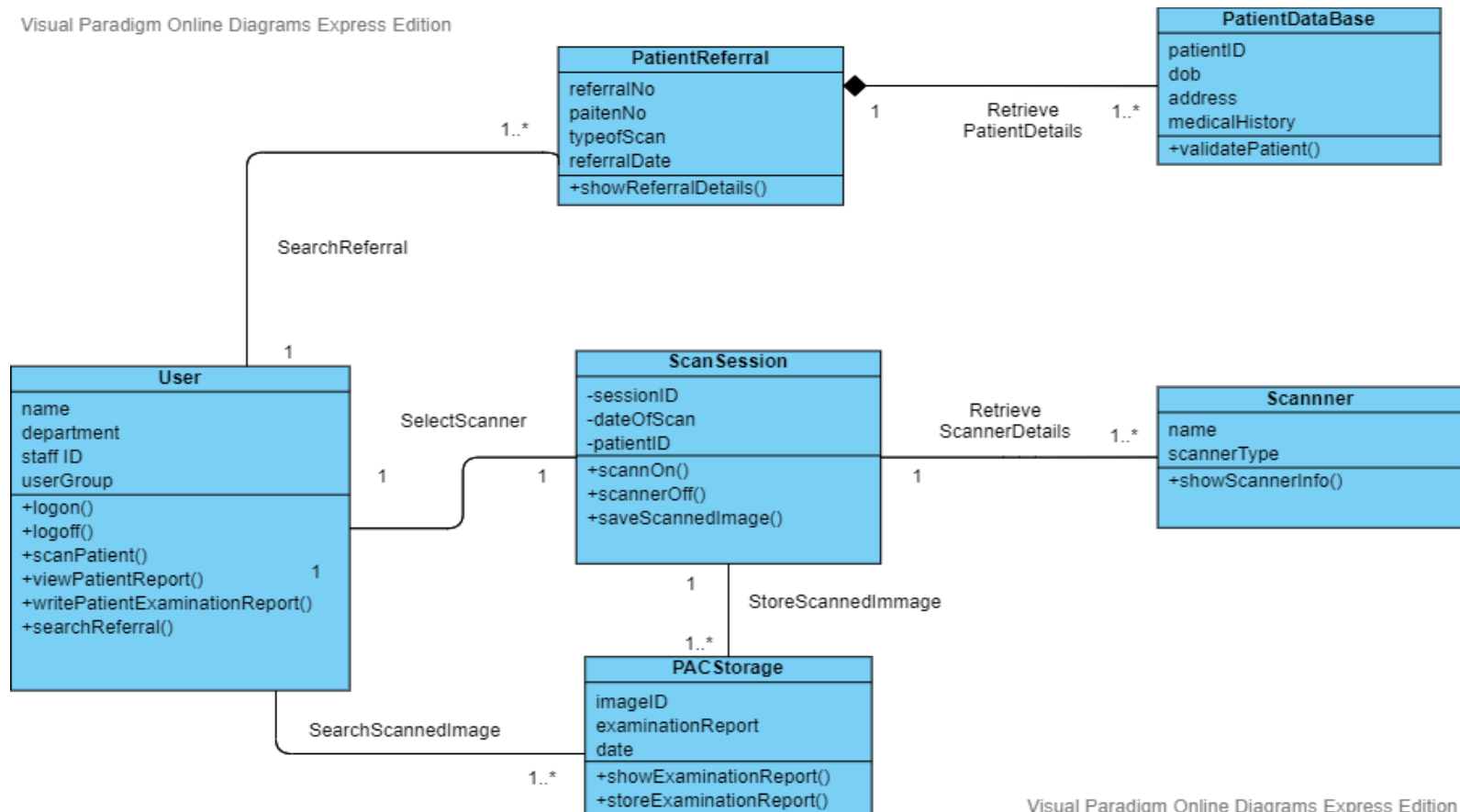
[mysqld]

- `ssl_ca=ca.pem` ##path name of the CA certificate file
- `ssl_cert=server-cert.pem` ## the path name for the public key certificate file
- `ssl_key=server-key.pem` ## the path name of the server private key file
- `require_secure_transport=ON` ## specifies client is required to use encrypted connection



Application to PACs

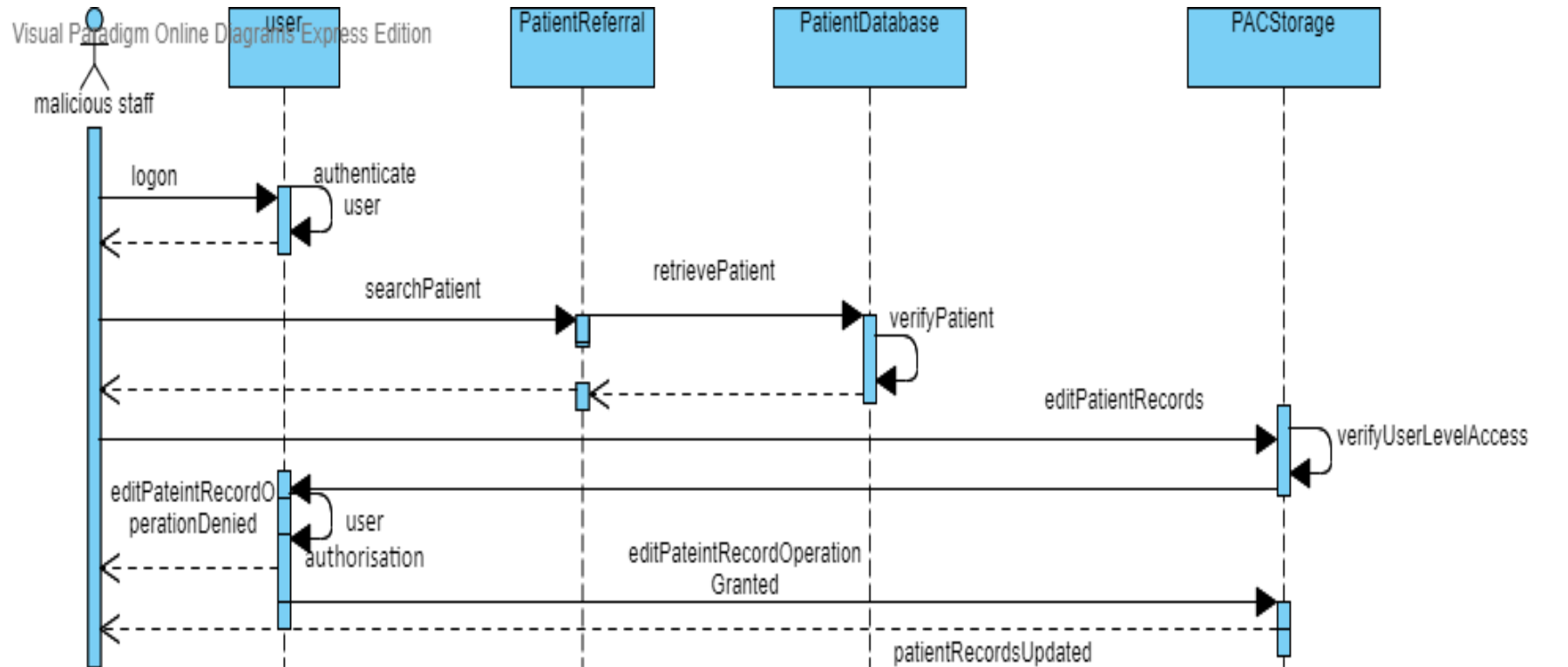
Visual Paradigm Online Diagrams Express Edition



Visual Paradigm Online Diagrams Express Edition



Application to PACs





Python: security measures

```
import hashlib

class User:
    def __init__(self, username, password):
        """Create a new user object. The password
        will be encrypted before storing."""
        self.username = username
        self.password = self._encrypt_pw(password)

        self.is_logged_in = False

    def _encrypt_pw(self, password):
        """Encrypt the password with the username and return
        the sha digest."""
        hash_string = self.username + password
        hash_string = hash_string.encode("utf8")
        return hashlib.sha256(hash_string).hexdigest()

    def check_password(self, password):
        """Return True if the password is valid for this
        user, false otherwise."""
        encrypted = self._encrypt_pw(password)
        return encrypted == self.password
```



Python: security measures

```
class Authenticator:
    def __init__(self):
        """Construct an authenticator to manage
        users logging in and out."""
        self.users = {}

    def add_user(self, username, password):
        if username in self.users:
            raise UsernameAlreadyExists(username)
        if len(password) < 6:
            raise PasswordTooShort(username)
        self.users[username] = User(username, password)
```



Python: security measures

```
import auth

# Set up a test user and permission
auth.authenticator.add_user("joe", "joepassword")
auth.authorizer.add_permission("test program")
auth.authorizer.add_permission("change program")
auth.authorizer.permit_user("test program", "joe")

class Editor:
    def __init__(self):
        self.username = None
        self.menu_map = {
            "login": self.login,
            "test": self.test,
            "change": self.change,
            "quit": self.quit,
        }

    def login(self):
        logged_in = False
        while not logged_in:
            username = input("username: ")
            password = input("password: ")
            try:
                logged_in = auth.authenticator.login(username, password)
            except auth.InvalidUsername:
                print("Sorry, that username does not exist")
            except auth.InvalidPassword:
                print("Sorry, incorrect password")
            else:
                self.username = username

    def is_permitted(self, permission):
        try:
            auth.authorizer.check_permission(permission, self.username)
        except auth.NotLoggedInError as e:
            print("{} is not logged in".format(e.username))
            return False
        except auth.NotPermittedError as e:
            print("{} cannot {}".format(e.username, permission))
            return False
        else:
```




Python: security measures

```
        return True

    def test(self):
        if self.is_permitted("test program"):
            print("Testing program now...")

    def change(self):
        if self.is_permitted("change program"):
            print("Changing program now...")

    def quit(self):
        raise SystemExit()

    def menu(self):
        try:
            answer = ""
            while True:
                print(
                    """
Please enter a command:
\tlogin\tLogin
\ttest\tTest the program
\tchange\tChange the program
\tquit\tQuit
"""
                )
                answer = input("enter a command: ").lower()
                try:
                    func = self.menu_map[answer]
                except KeyError:
                    print("{} is not a valid option".format(answer))
                else:
                    func()
            finally:
                print("Thank you for testing the auth module")

Editor().menu()
```



Questions

Any other questions ?