

Spring Security

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Trainer & Consultant

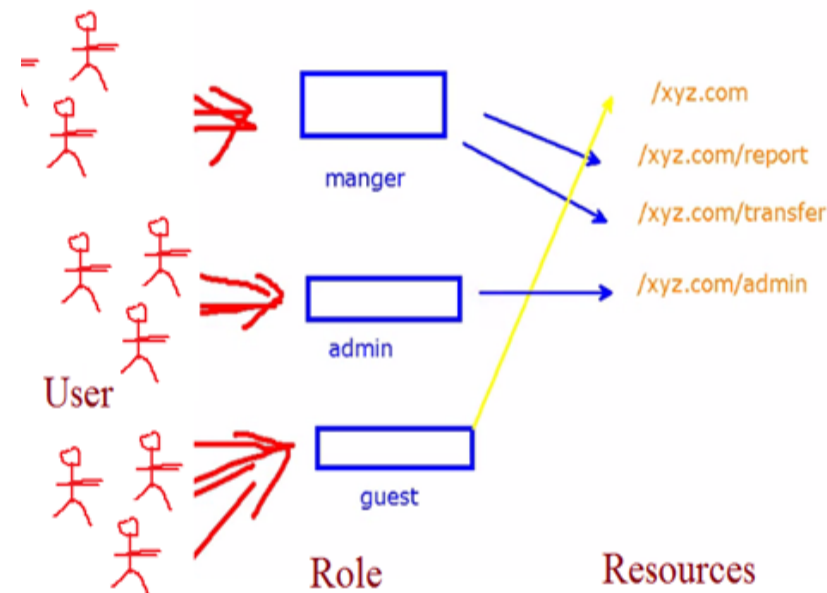
Agenda

- ▶ Understanding Role access control
- ▶ What is Spring Security
- ▶ History
- ▶ Servlet filter review
- ▶ Setting up Spring Security
- ▶ How the basic Spring Security flow works
- ▶ Simple customizations of Spring Security
- ▶ Log In Page
- ▶ Custom Log In Controller



Role based Access Control RAC

- ▶ Role based Access Control (RAC)
 - ▶ As it is difficult to manage permission for each user, each user is assigned to a role and permission is set for the role
 - ▶ Authentication using Spring
 - ▶ Http Basic Authentication (uses in XML- pop up form)
 - ▶ Http form based Authentication(uses in XML- custom form)
 - ▶ Http form based Authentication(uses in DB)



Spring security

- ▶ Spring Security is a security framework that provides declarative security for your Spring-based applications.
- ▶ Spring Security handles authentication and authorization at both the web request level and at the method invocation level. Spring Security takes full advantage of DI and AOP
- ▶ Security Classification :
 - ▶ Wire level security
 - ▶ By encryption of data bw client and server
 - ▶ By enabling the Https port and security certificates
 - ▶ Application level security
 - ▶ Authorization and Authentication –Can use Spring API



History of Spring Security

- ▶ Acegi security framework is simplified by Spring framework, hundreds line of xml configuration reduced to few line, thanks to spring new namespace for security, along with annotations and reasonable defaults

Spring Security got its start as Acegi Security. Acegi was a powerful security framework, but it had one big turn-off: it required a *lot* of XML configuration. I'll spare you the intricate details of what such a configuration may have looked like. Suffice it to say that it was common for a typical Acegi configuration to grow to several hundred lines of XML.

Spring Security tackles security from two angles. To secure web requests and restrict access at the URL level, Spring Security uses servlet filters. Spring Security can also secure method invocations using Spring AOP—proxying objects and applying advice that ensures that the user has proper authority to invoke secured methods.



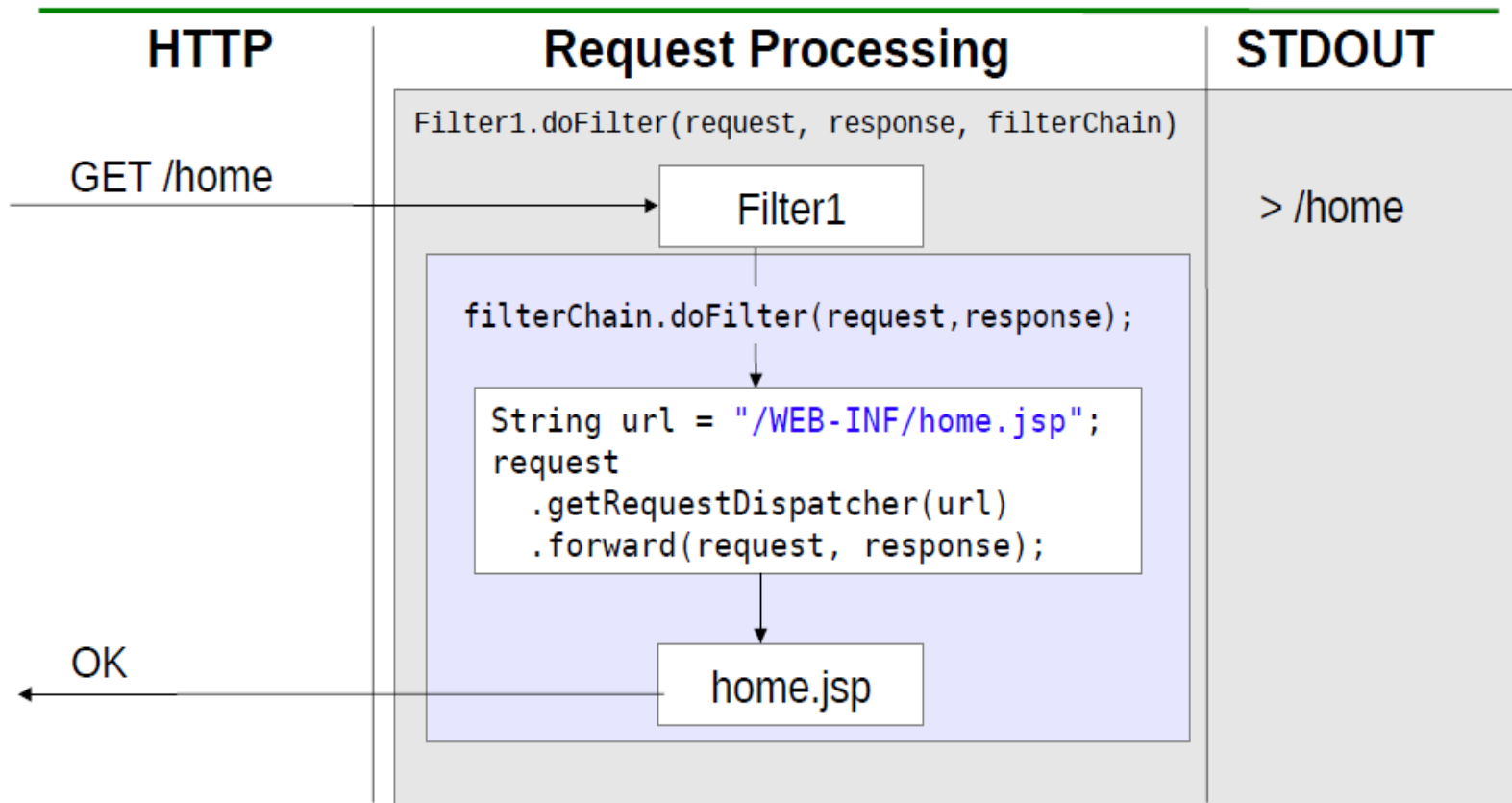
Servlet filter review

```
<filter>
  <filter-name>filter1</filter-name>
  <filter-class>Filter1</filter-class>
</filter>
<filter-mapping>
  <filter-name>filter1</filter-name>
  <url-pattern>/*</url-pattern>
</filter-mapping>
```

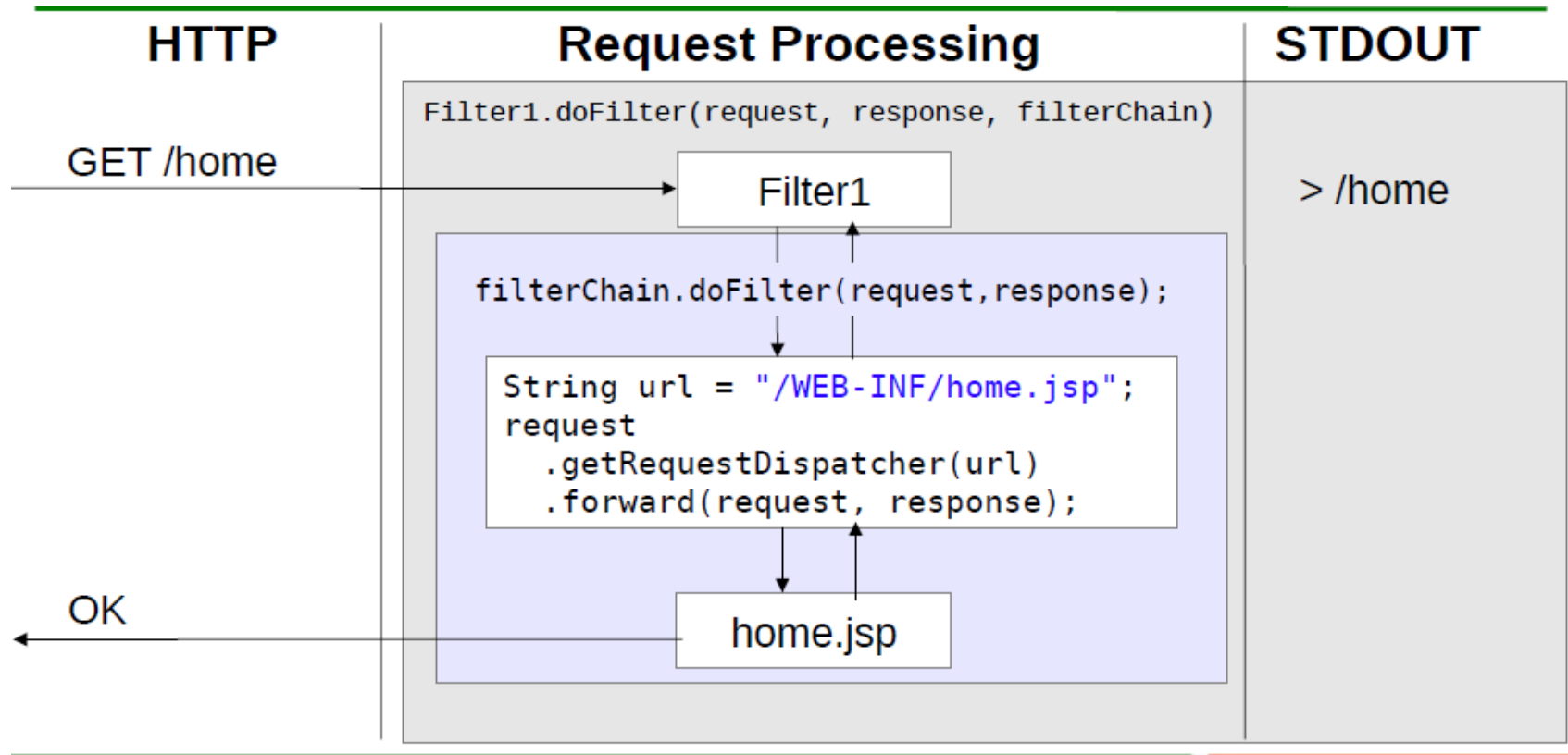
```
public void doFilter(ServletRequest request,
    ServletResponse response, FilterChain filterChain) ... {
    ...
    // do something before
    System.out.println("> " + requestUrl);
    // run rest of application
    filterChain.doFilter(request, response);
    // cleanup
    System.out.println("< " + requestUrl);
}
```



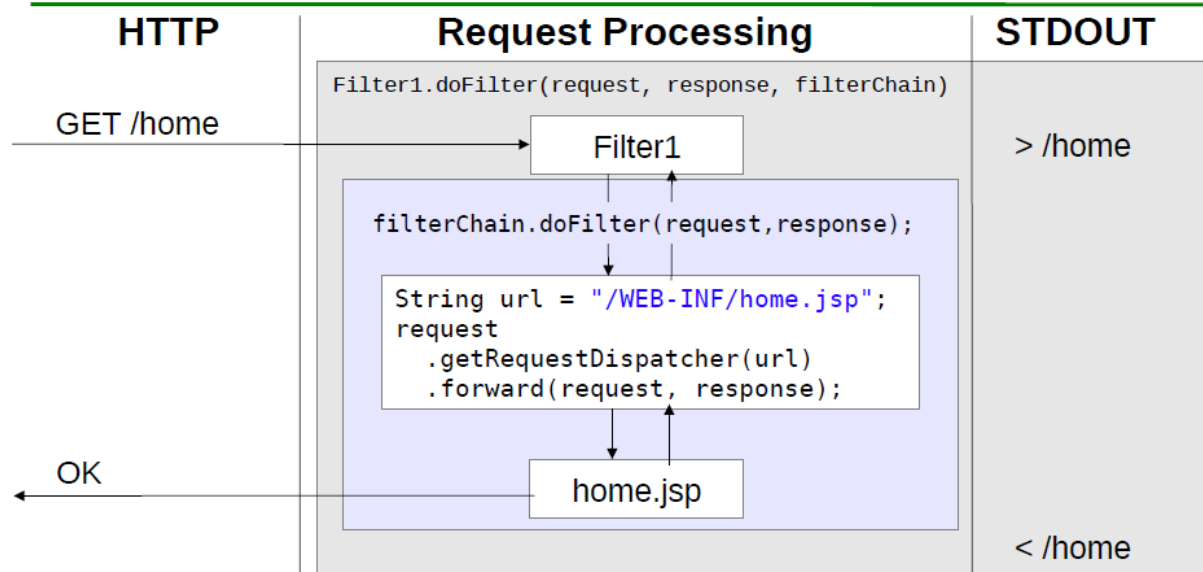
Servlet filter review-Dispatcher



Servlet filter review-Dispatcher



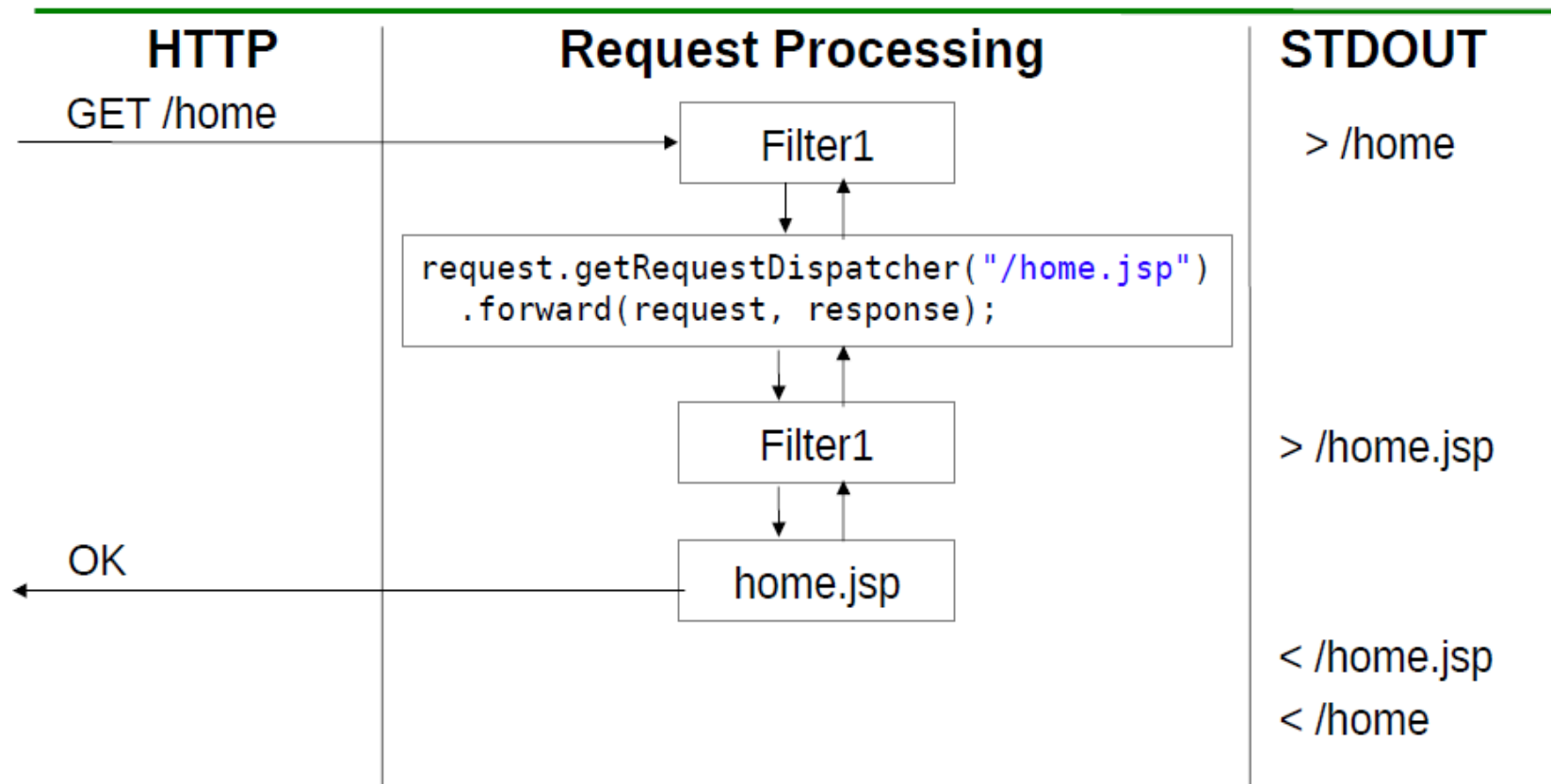
Servlet filter review-Dispatcher



What if we want to log every request and forward.

```
<filter>
  <filter-name>filter1</filter-name>
  <filter-class>Filter1</filter-class>
</filter>
<filter-mapping>
  <filter-name>filter1</filter-name>
  <url-pattern>/*</url-pattern>
  <dispatcher>REQUEST</dispatcher>
  <dispatcher>FORWARD</dispatcher>
</filter-mapping>
```

Servlet filter review-Dispatcher



Servlet filter review-Dispatcher

- ▶ Spring Security is based on Servlet Filters
- ▶ Rare to process other dispatcher types, but important to be aware of them
- ▶ Ensure to include the necessary dispatcher elements
- ▶ Other possible dispatcher values include
 - REQUEST (default)
 - INCLUDE
 - FORWARD
 - ERROR



Servlet filter review-FilterChain

```
public void doFilter(ServletRequest request,
    ServletResponse response, FilterChain filterChain) ... {
    try {
        // run rest of application
        filterChain.doFilter(request, response);
        securityFilter.doFilter(request, response, filterChain);
        servlet.service(request, response);
    }
    catch (SecurityException e) {
        // handle error by sending to login page
    }
    finally {
        // cleanup
    }
}
```



Basic Spring Security Setup

► Steps:

1. Add Spring Security Dependencies
2. Update web.xml
3. Create Spring Security Configuration



Add Spring Security Dependencies

```
<dependencies>
  ...
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.security</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-security-core</artifactId>
    <version>3.1.3.RELEASE</version>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.security</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-security-web</artifactId>
    <version>3.1.3.RELEASE</version>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.security</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-security-config</artifactId>
    <version>3.1.3.RELEASE</version>
  </dependency>
</dependencies>
```



Update web.xml - ContextLoaderListener

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>contextConfigLocation</param-name>
  <param-value>
    /WEB-INF/spring/*.xml
  </param-value>
</context-param>
<listener>
  <listener-class>
    org.springframework.web.context.ContextLoaderListener
  </listener-class>
</listener>
```

What is the ContextLoaderListener

- Not Specific to Spring Security
- Creates a Spring ApplicationContext using the Spring Configurations (i.e. the value of contextConfigLocation)
- Can be used to lookup objects in ApplicationContext
- Rare to interact with ApplicationContext directly



ContextLoaderListener pseudocode

```
// init ApplicationContext
XmlWebApplicationContext applicationContext =
    new XmlWebApplicationContext();
applicationContext.setConfigLocation("/WEB-INF/spring/*.xml");
applicationContext.refresh();

// Use ApplicationContext
Filter filter =
    applicationContext.getBean("springSecurityFilterChain",
                                Filter.class);
```

```
// init ApplicationContext
XmlWebApplicationContext applicationContext =
    new XmlWebApplicationContext();
applicationContext.setConfigLocation("/WEB-INF/spring/*.xml");
applicationContext.refresh();
```

```
// Use Application
Filter filter
    application
```

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>contextConfigLocation</param-name>
  <param-value>
    /WEB-INF/spring/*.xml
  </param-value>
</context-param>
```


Update web.xml - springSecurityFilterChain

```
<filter>
  <filter-name>springSecurityFilterChain</filter-name>
  <filter-class>
    org.springframework.web.filter.DelegatingFilterProxy
  </filter-class>
</filter>
<filter-mapping>
  <filter-name>springSecurityFilterChain</filter-name>
  <url-pattern>/*</url-pattern>
</filter-mapping>
```



DelegatingFilterProxy pseudocode

```
public class DelegatingFilterProxy implements Filter {
    public void init(FilterConfig config) throws ServletException {
        // applicationContext is obtained from ContextLoaderListener
        this.delegate =
            applicationContext.getBean("springSecurityFilterChain",
                                      Filter.class);
    }
    public void doFilter(...) throws ... {
        this.delegate.doFilter(request, response, filterChain);
    }
    public void destroy() {
        // this may not be invoked depending on the settings
        this.delegate.destroy();
    }
    private Filter delegate;
}
```



DelegatingFilterProxy pseudocode

```
public class DelegatingFilterProxy implements Filter {
    public void init(FilterConfig config) throws ServletException {
        // applicationContext is obtained from ContextLoaderListener
        this.delegate =
            applicationContext.getBean("springSecurityFilterChain",
                                     Filter.class);
    }

    <filter-mapping>
        <filter-name>springSecurityFilterChain</filter-name>
        <url-pattern>/*</url-pattern>
    </filter-mapping>

    this.delegate.destroy();
}
private Filter delegate;
}
```

DelegatingFilterProxy pseudocode

```
public class DelegatingFilterProxy implements Filter {
    public void init(FilterConfig config) throws ServletException {
        // applicationContext is obtained from ContextLoaderListener
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        this.delegate.doFilter(request, response, filterChain);
    }
    public void destroy() {
        // this may not be invoked depending on the settings
        this.delegate.destroy();
    }
    private Filter delegate;
}
```

Create security.xml

- ▶ The file location should be src/main/webapp/WEB-INF/spring/security.xml to match the contextConfigLocation
- ▶ Need to ensure to get the xml namespace declaration correct

```
<security:http use-expressions="true">
  <security:intercept-url pattern="/**"
    access="hasRole('ROLE_USER')"/>
  <security:form-login />
</security:http>
<security:authentication-manager>
  <security:authentication-provider>
    <security:user-service>
      <security:user name="user"
        password="password"
        authorities="ROLE_USER"/>
    </security:user-service>
  </security:authentication-provider>
</security:authentication-manager>
```

src/main/webapp/WEB-INF/security.xml



FilterChainProxy (springSecurityFilterChain) Pseudocode

```
public void doFilter(ServletRequest request,
    ServletResponse response, FilterChain filterChain) ... {

    Filter[] delegates = lookupDelegates(request);
    for(Filter delegate : delegates) {
        delegate.doFilter(request, response, chain);

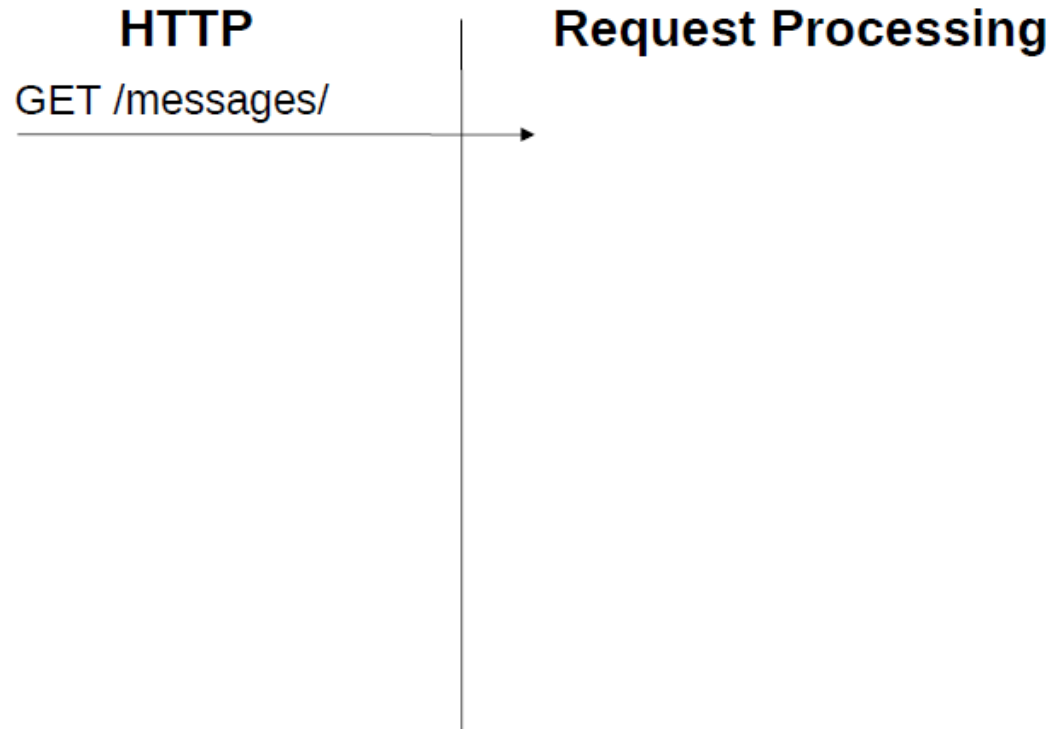
        if(delegate does not invoke filterChain.doFilter)
            return;
    }

    filterChain.doFilter(request, response);
}
```



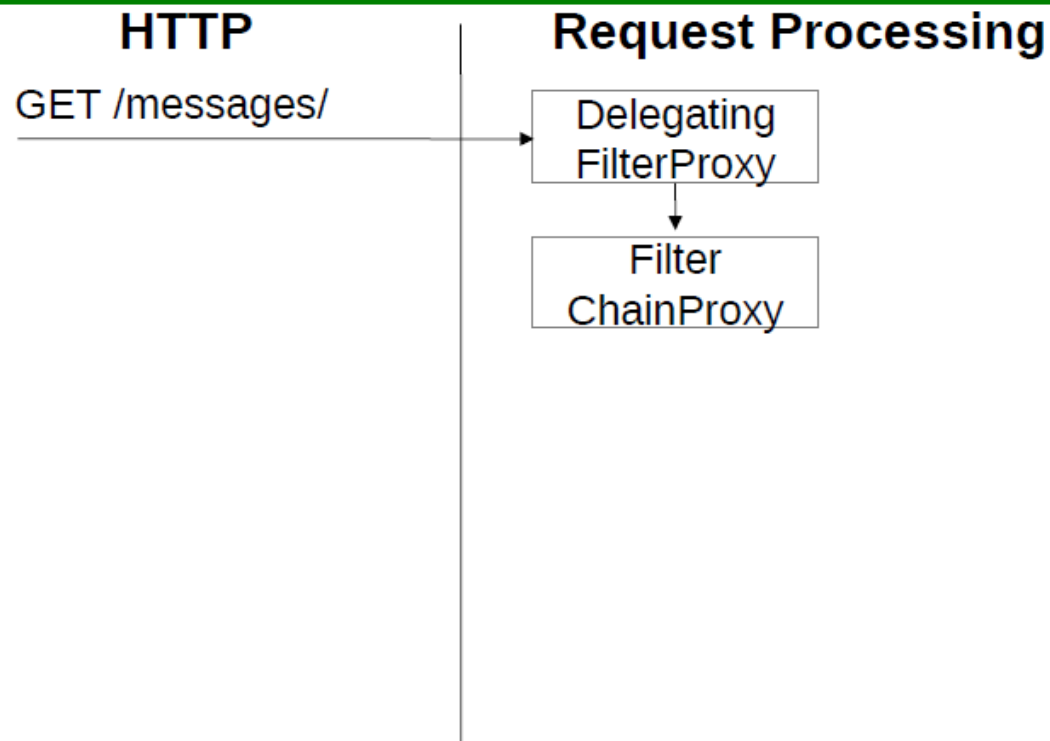
Understanding How spring security works?

- ▶ User look for resource, say /messages



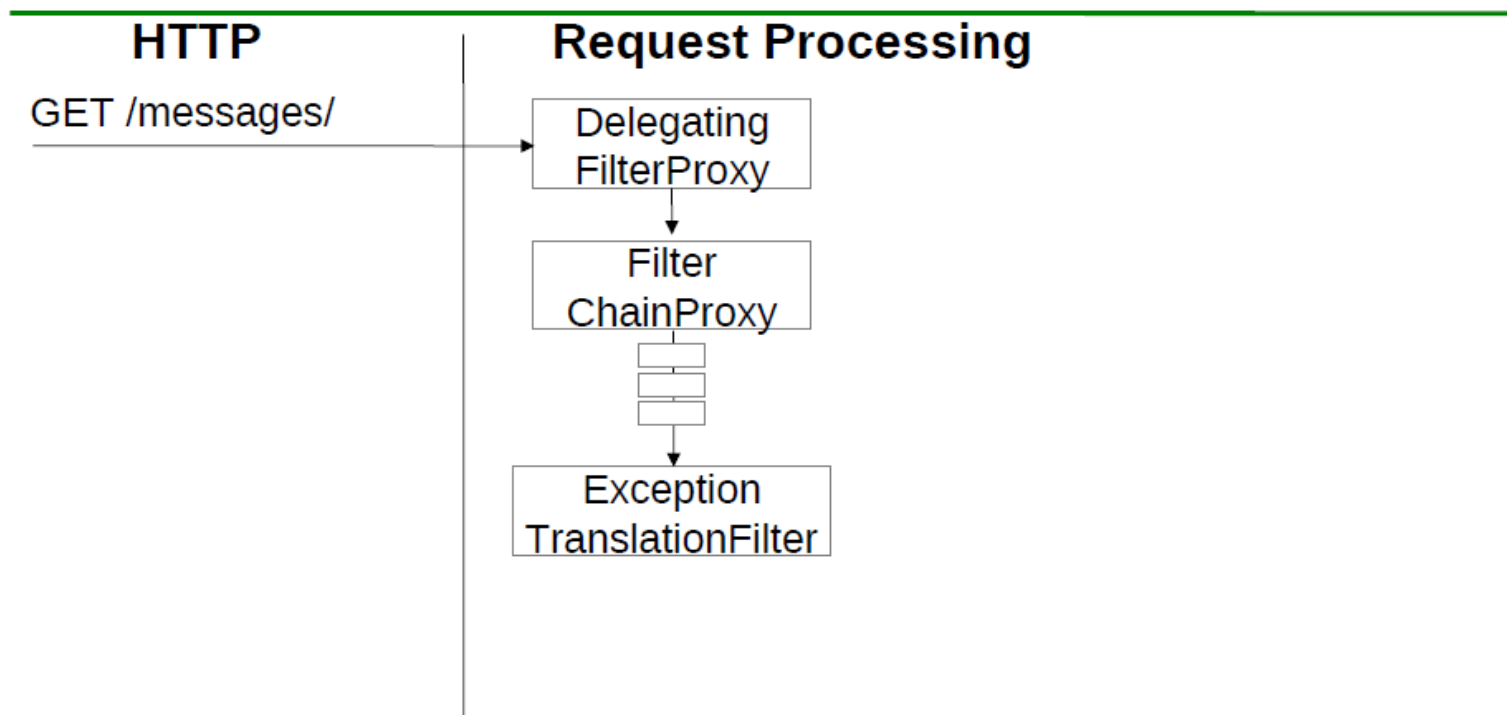
Understanding How spring security works?

- ▶ Request is handled by delegating filter proxy filter that we have configure earlier, it delegates the filter chain process

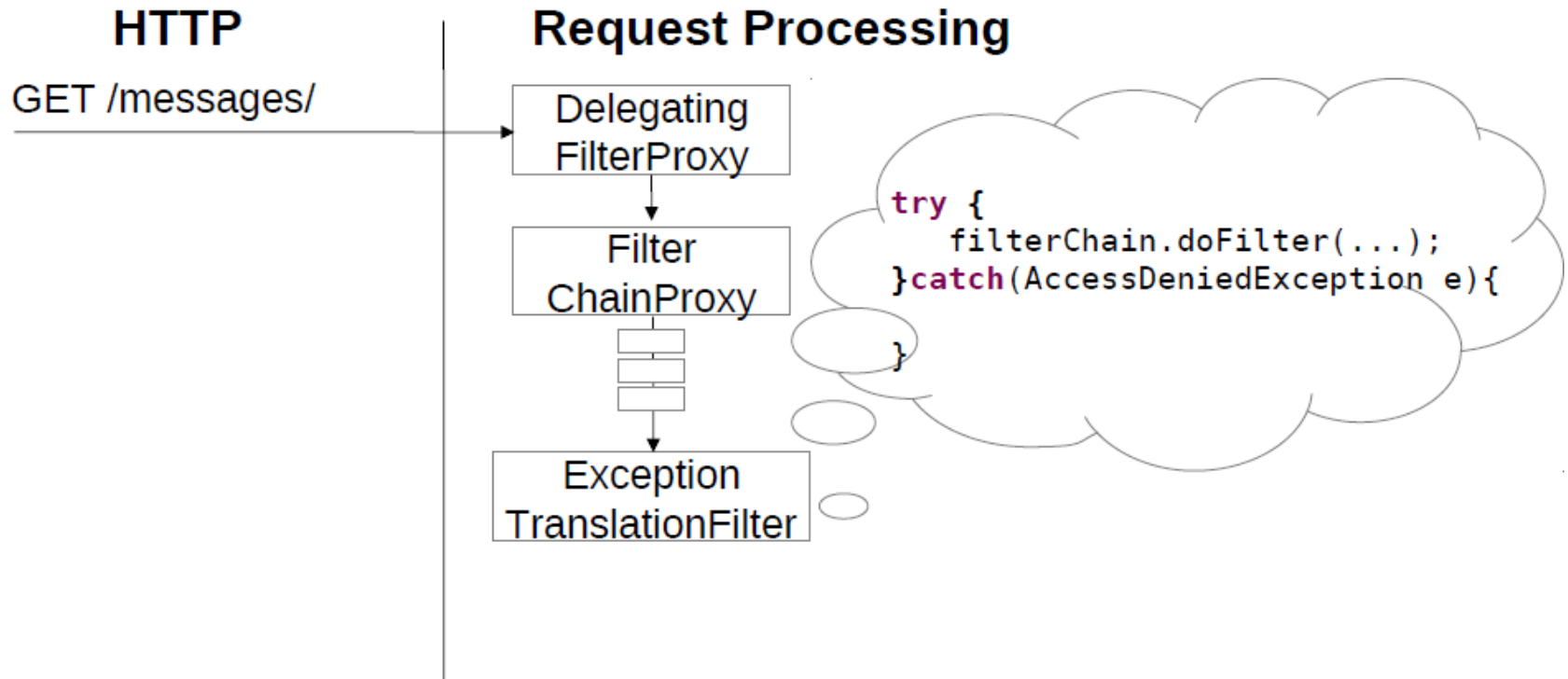


Understanding How spring security works?

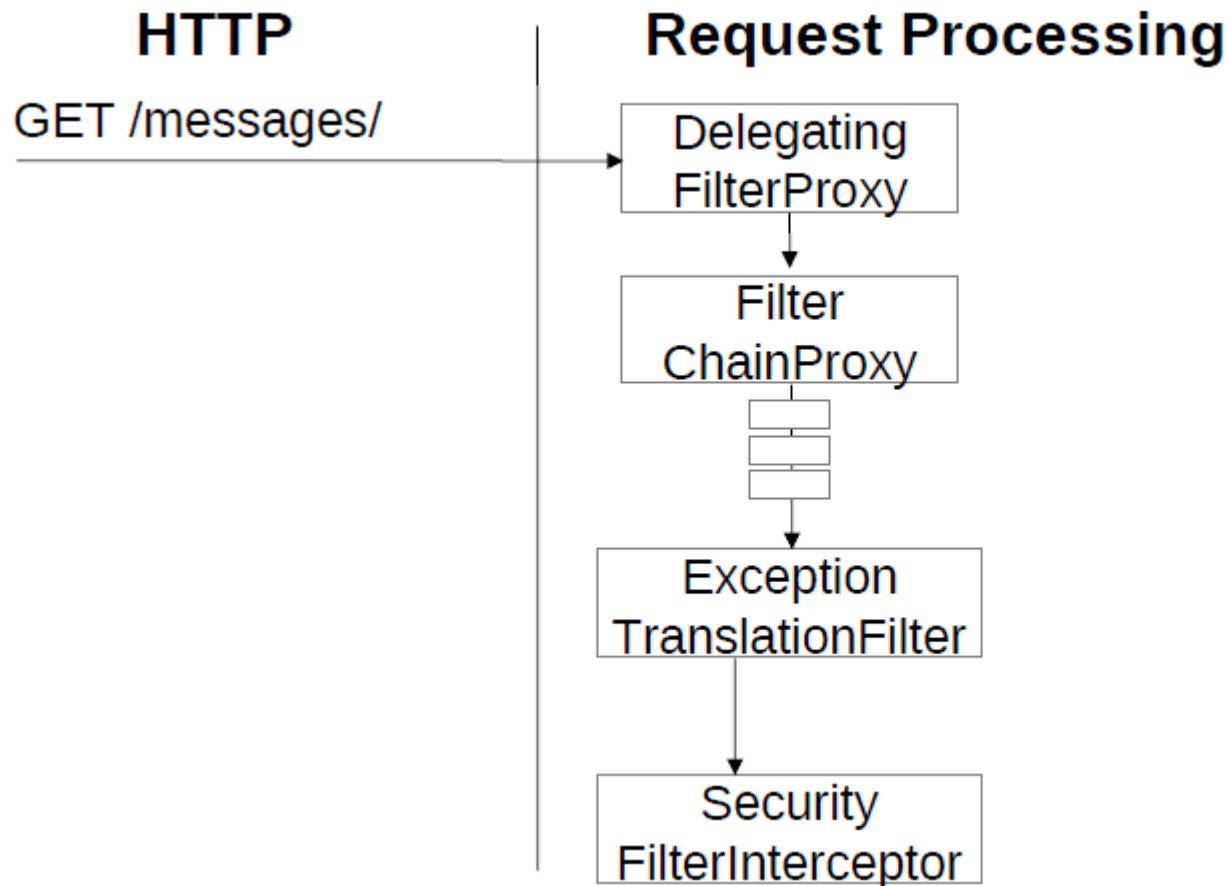
- ▶ Then request pass through series of filter, then request meet exception translationfilter



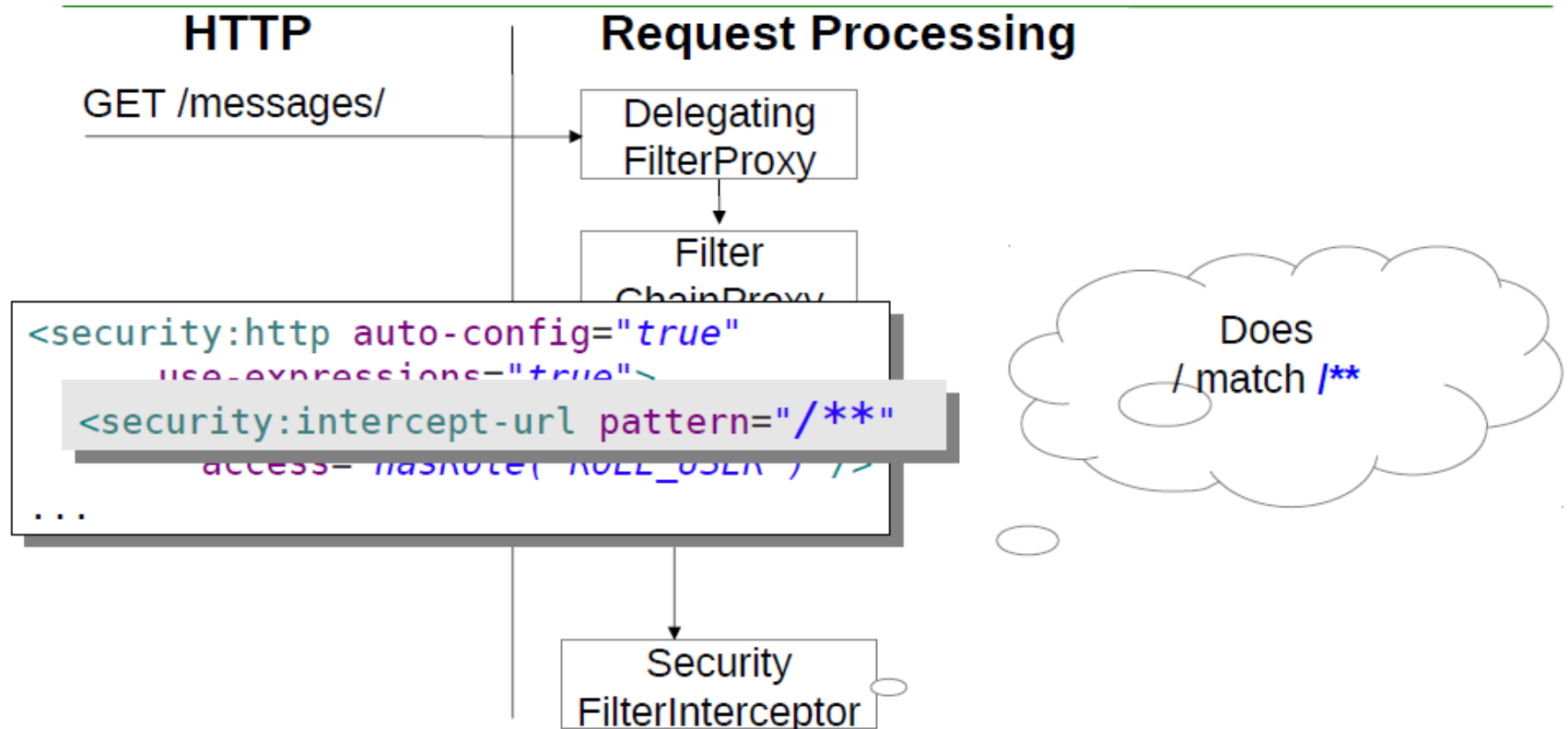
Understanding How spring security works?



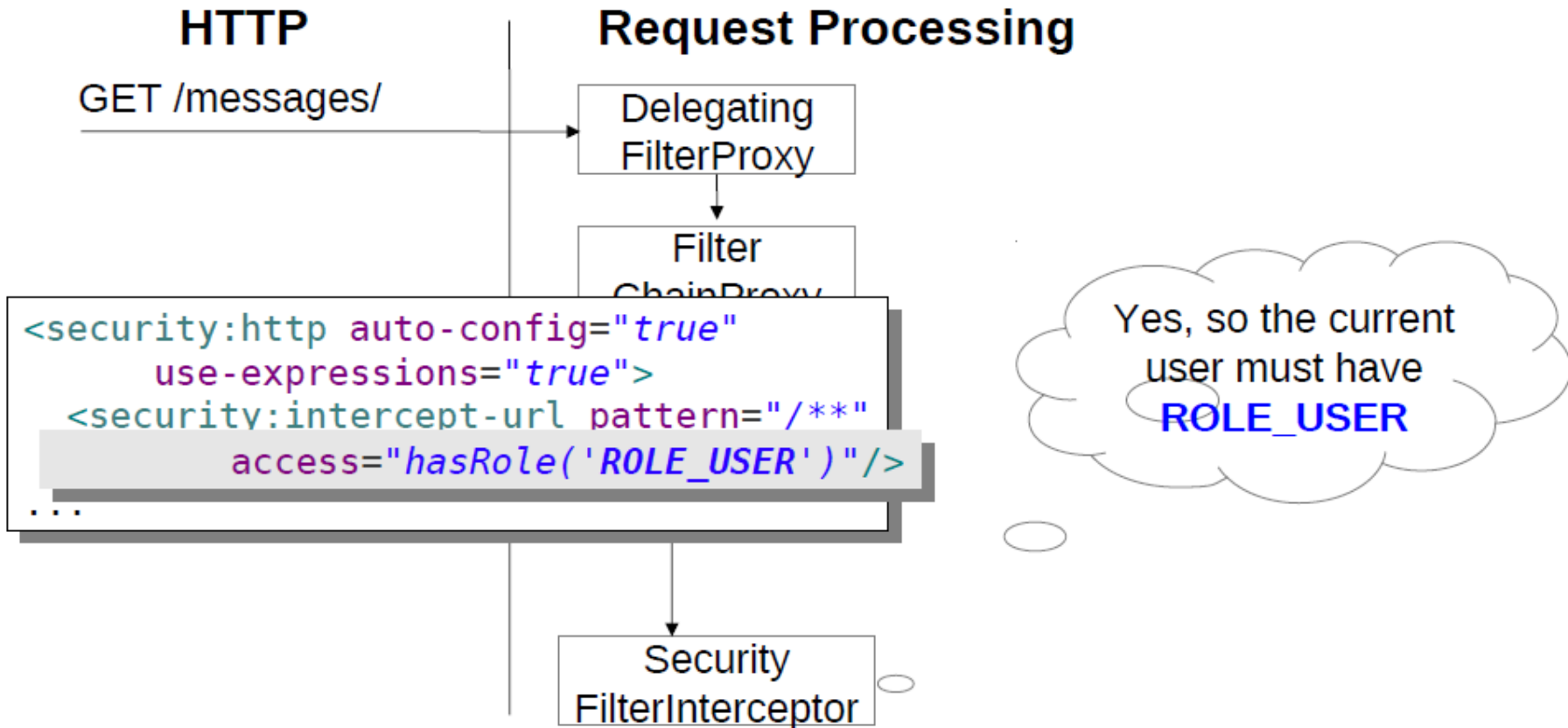
Understanding How spring security works?



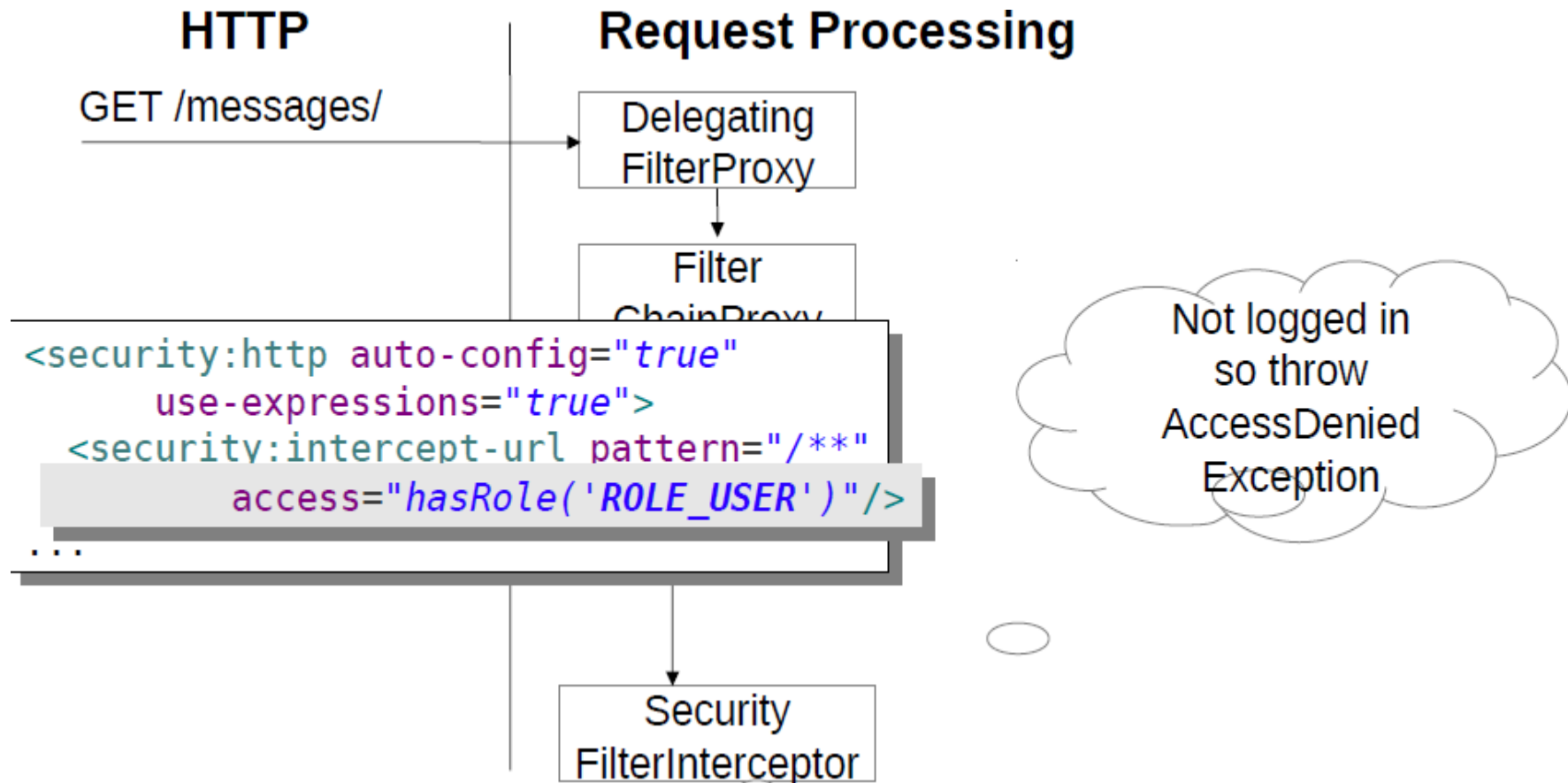
Understanding How spring security works?



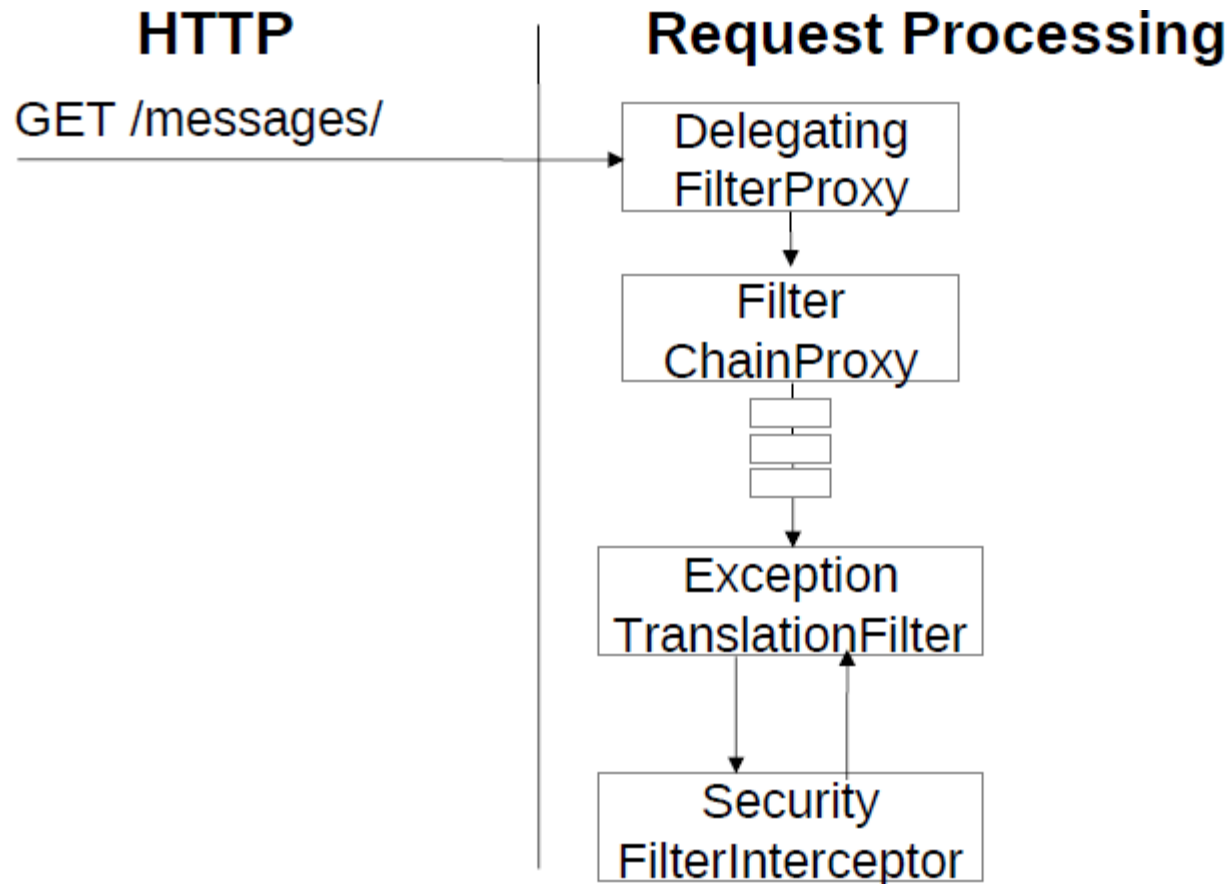
Understanding How spring security works?



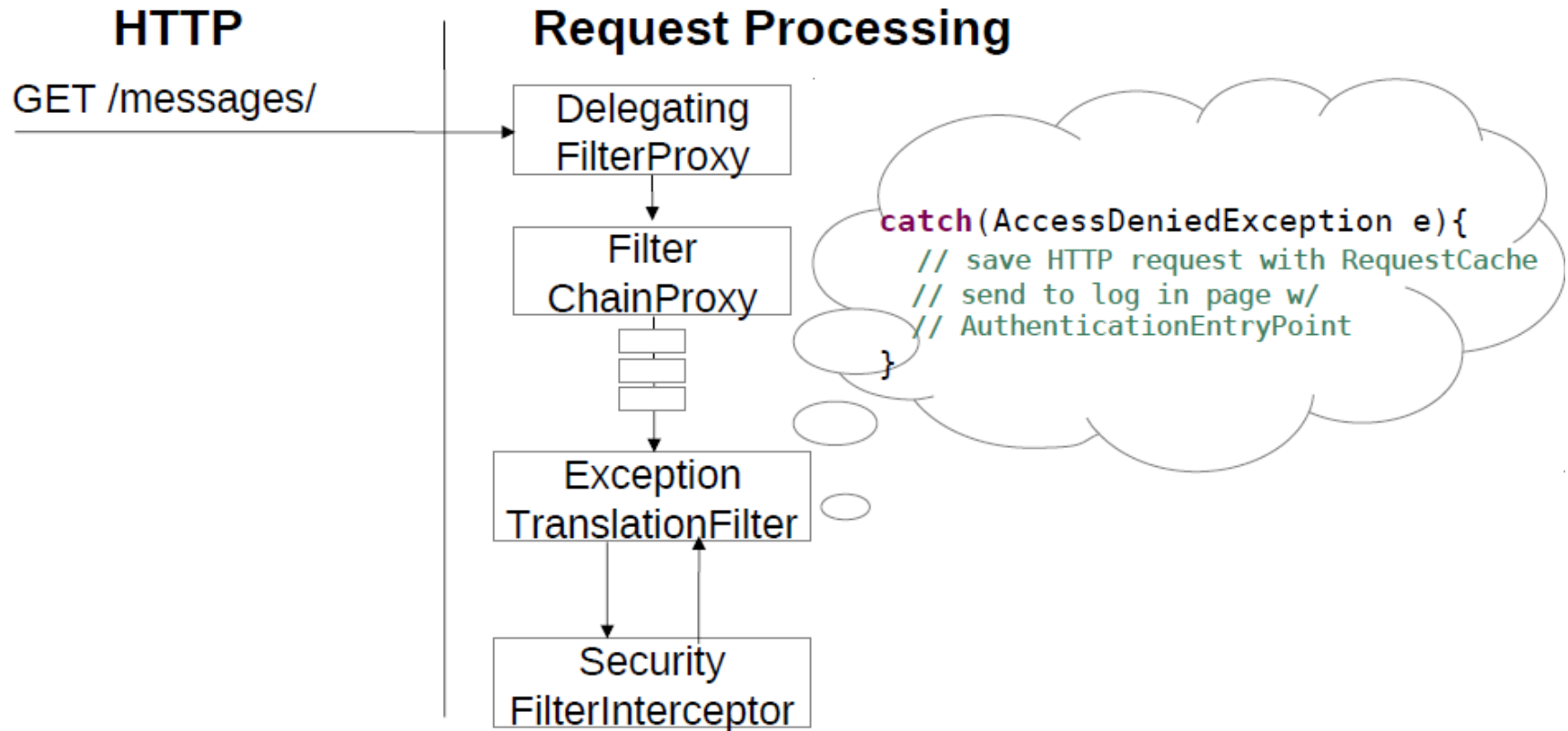
Understanding How spring security works?



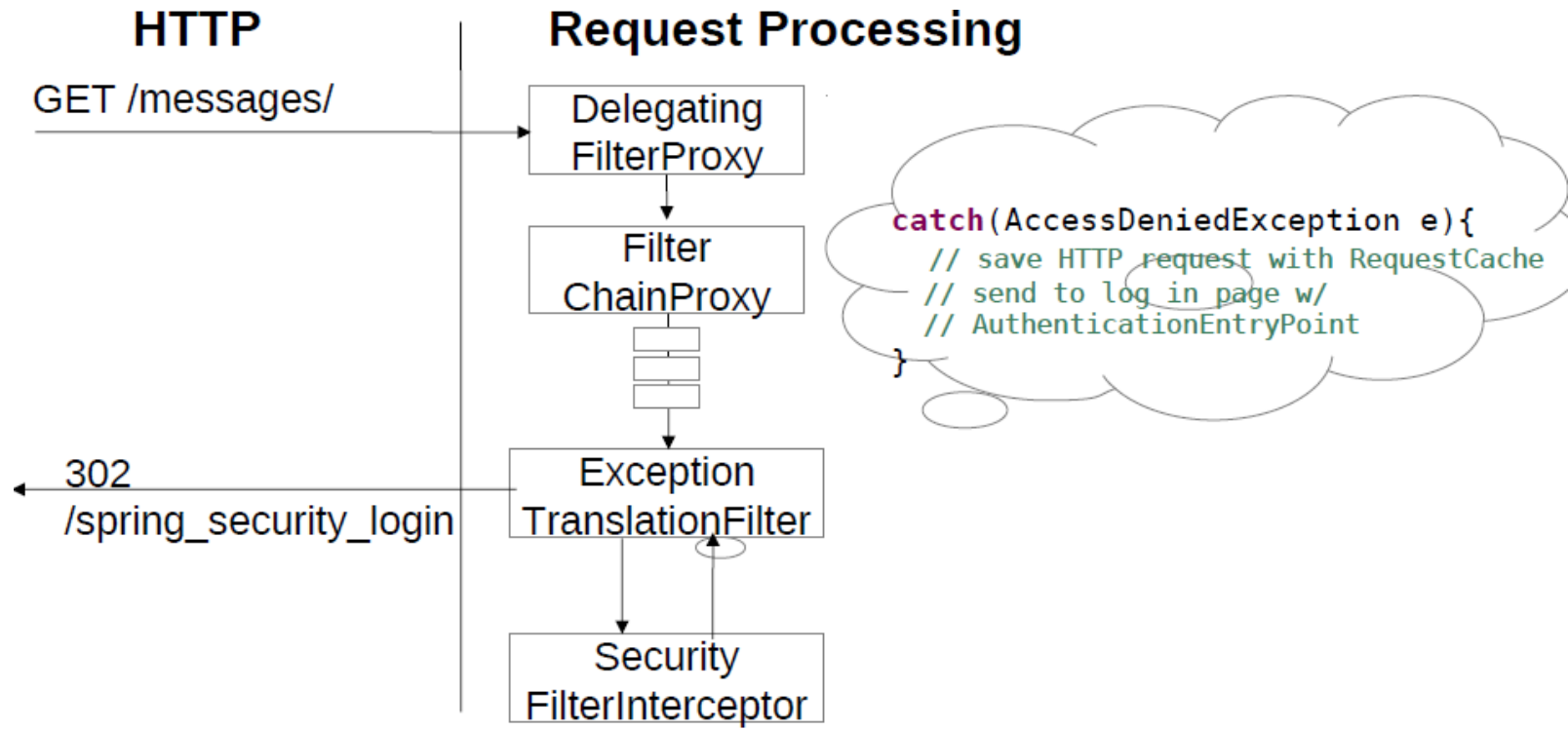
Understanding How spring security works?



Understanding How spring security works?



Understanding How spring security works?



Ant patterns

- ▶ Spring Security uses an AntPathRequestMatcher to determine if a URL
- ▶ matches the current URL. The following rules are used when
 - Query parameters are not included in the match
 - The context path is not included in the match
 - ? matches one character
 - * matches zero or more characters (not a directory delimiter i.e. /)
 - ** matches zero or more 'directories' in a path



Ant pattern examples

Ant Pattern examples that assume a context path of /messages

Pattern	Description	Full Path	Path to Match
/**	Matches any URL		
/*	Matches anything in root folder	/messages/1	/1
		/messages/2?a=b	/2
		/messages/1/	/1/

Pattern	Description	Full Path	Path to Match
/1/**	Matches anything that starts with /1	/messages/1	/1
		/messages/1?a=b	/1
		/messages/1/	/1/
		/messages/1/view	/1/view
		/messages/other/	/other/
		/messages/2/view	/2/view



Ant pattern examples

Be careful when using pattern matching

Pattern	Description	Full Path	Path to Match
/**/*.css	Matches anything that ends with .css	/messages/styles/main.css	/styles/main.css
		/messages/1	/1
		/messages/1.css	/1.css

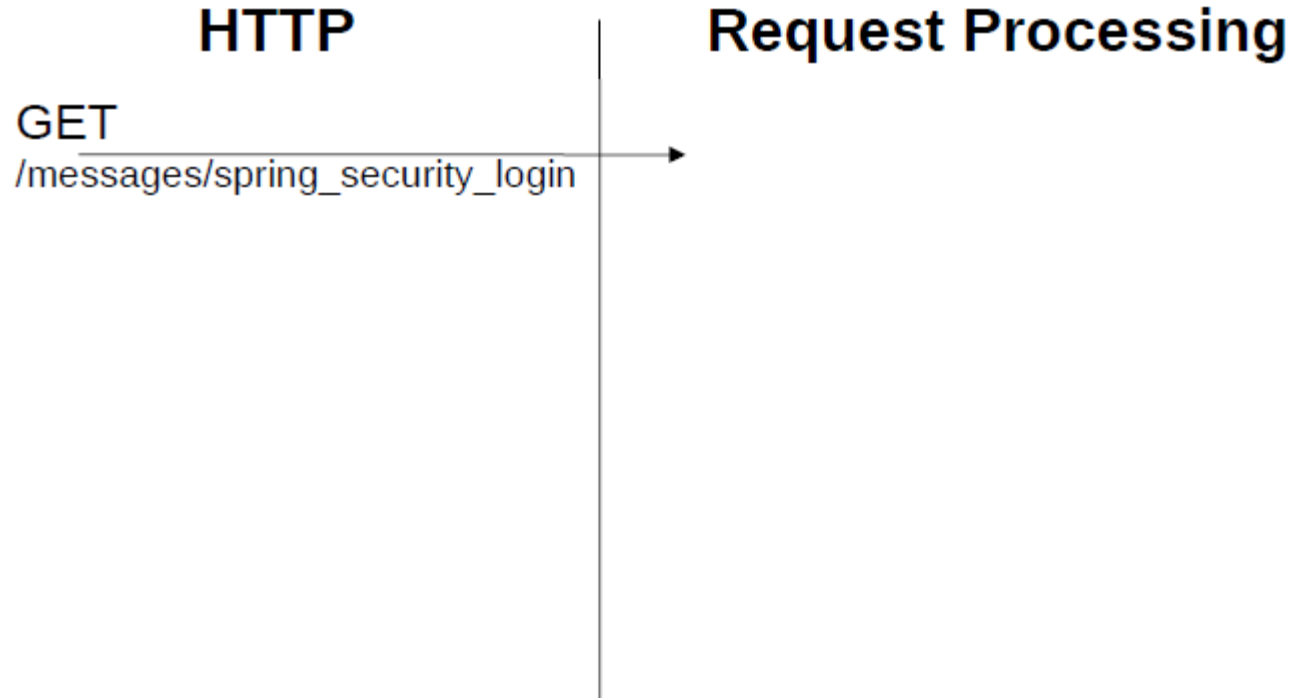
The less restrictive the mapping the easier it is for a malicious user to bypass
Spring MVC will treat /1.css the same as /1, so a malicious user can use this to bypass security constraints

Other ways to bypass URL based security (i.e. path variables, non-normalized URLs, etc). Spring Security does have things in place to help protect you (i.e. HttpFirewall)

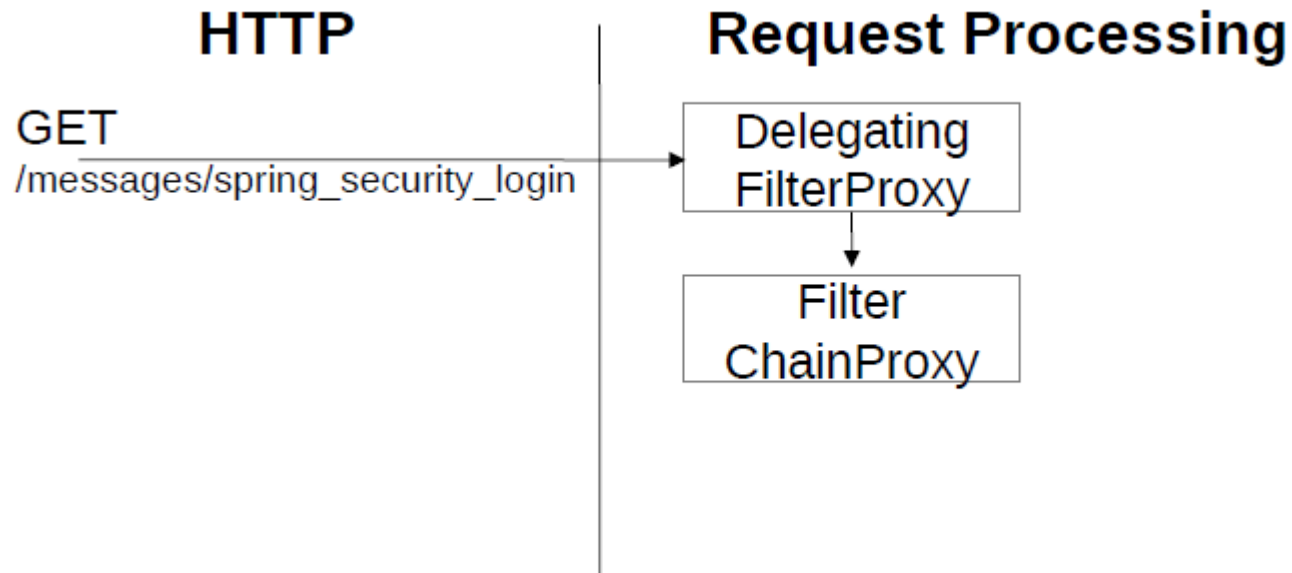
Best to combine URL Security with Method Security to provide defense in depth



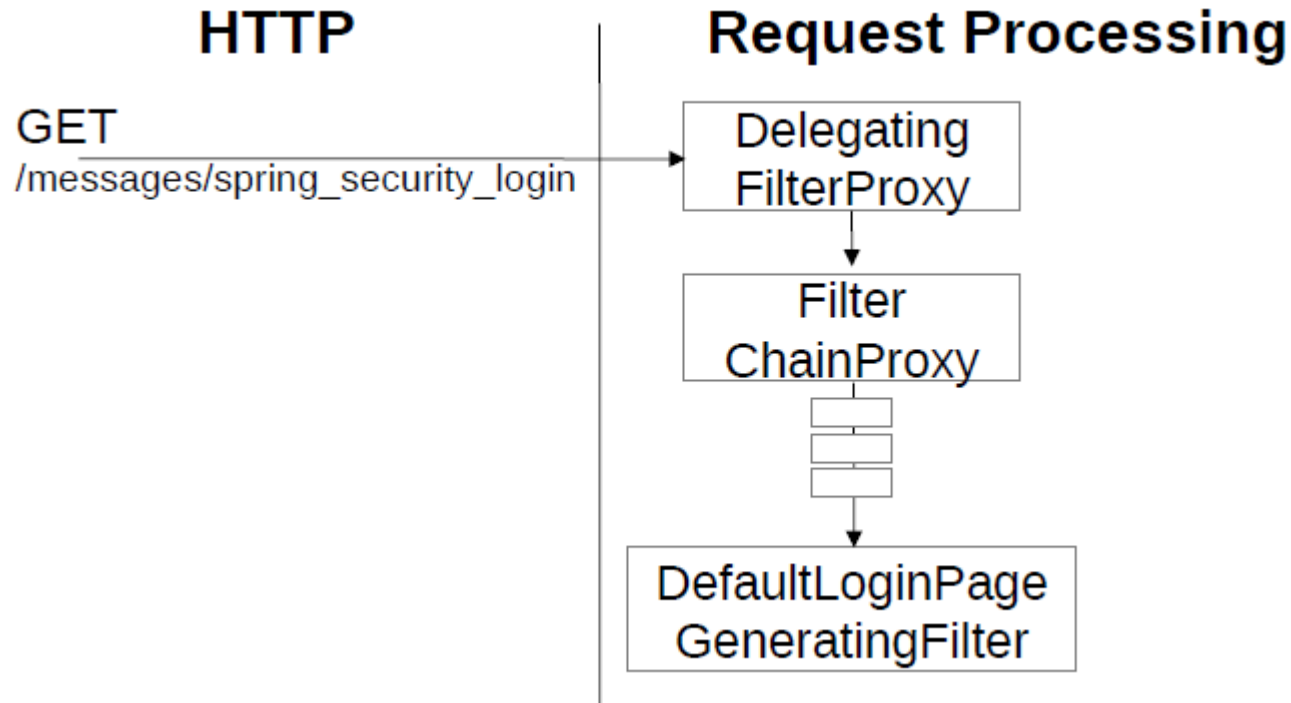
Requesting log in page



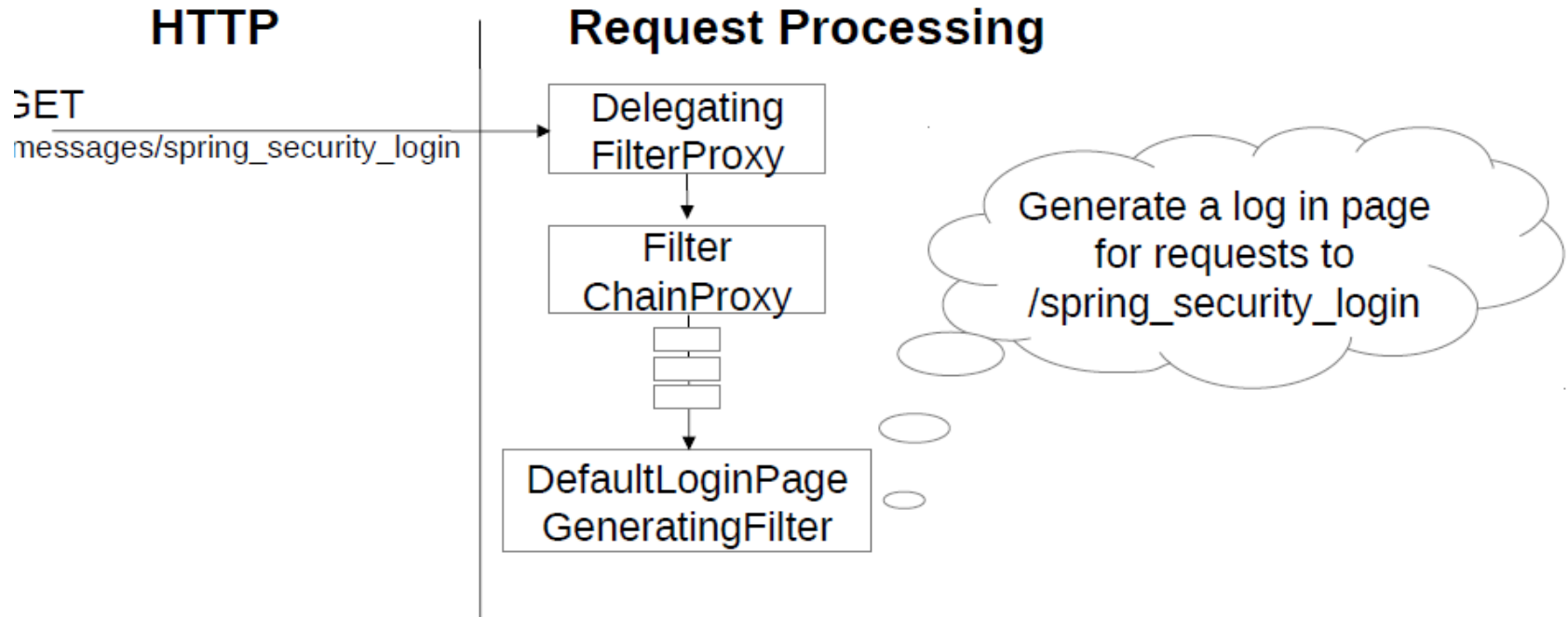
Requesting log in page



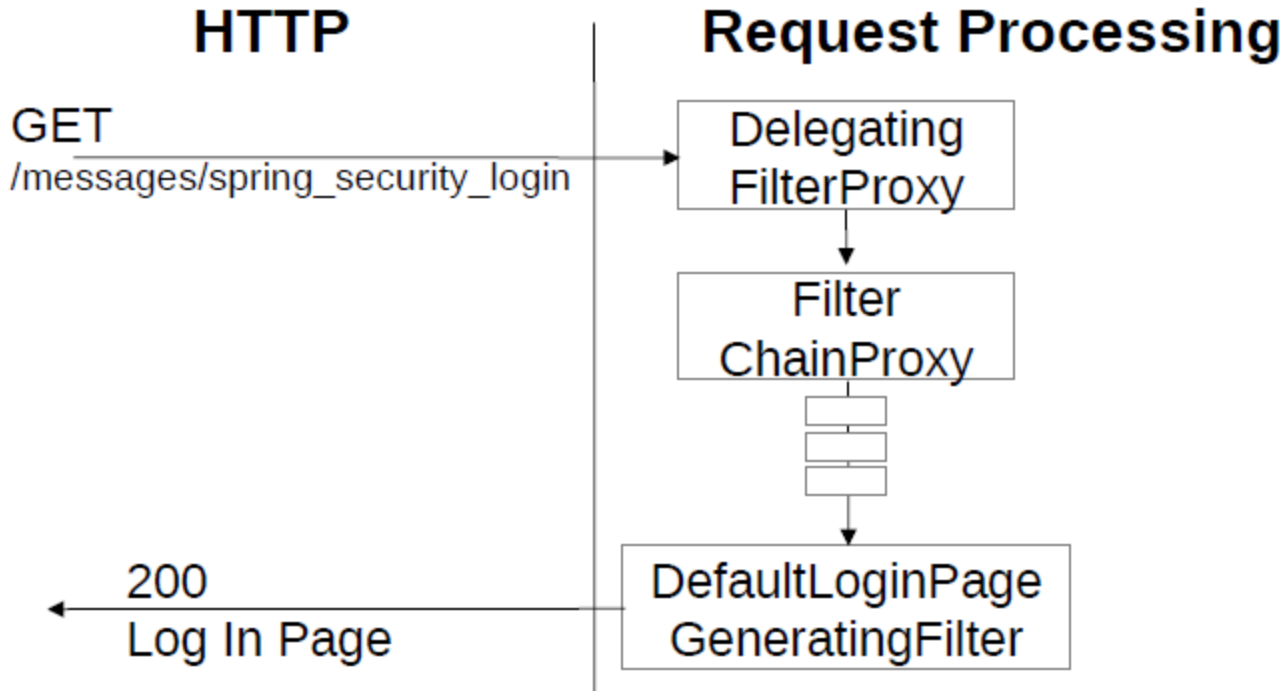
Requesting log in page



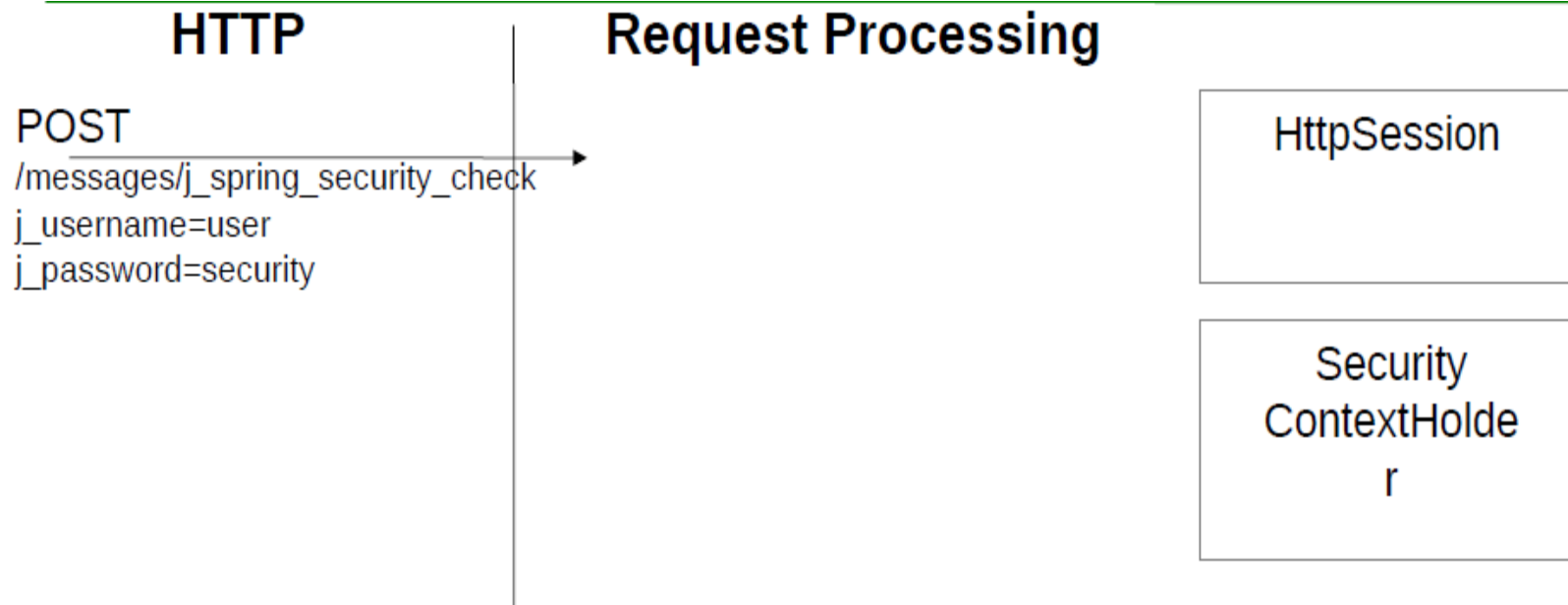
Requesting log in page



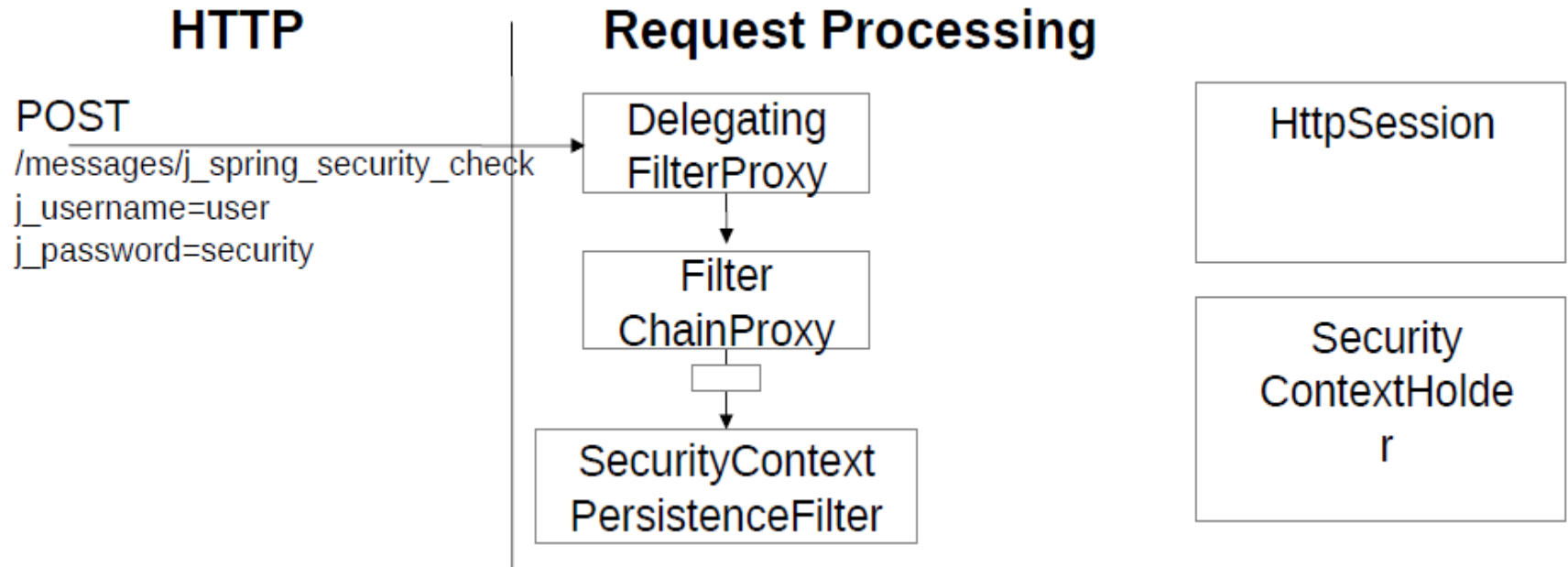
Requesting log in page



Authentication via username and password



Requesting log in page

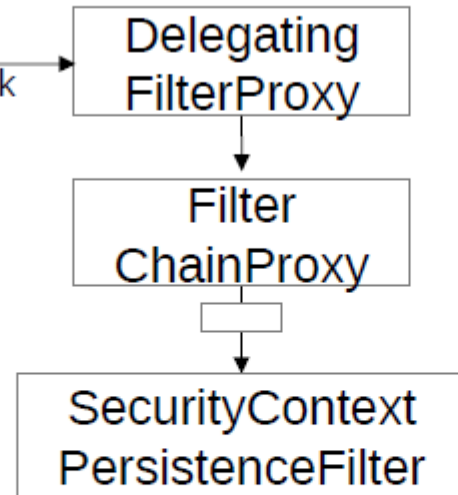


Requesting log in page

HTTP

POST
messages/j_spring_security_check
_username=user
_password=security

Request Processing



HttpSession

Security
ContextHolve
r

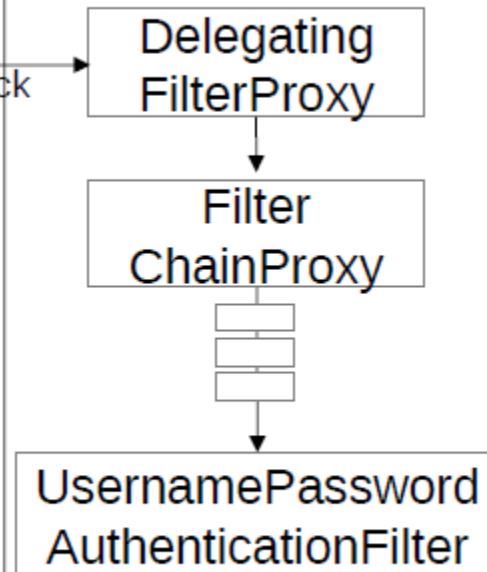
HttpSession
no Authentication

Requesting log in page

HTTP

POST
/messages/j_spring_security_check
_username=user
_password=security

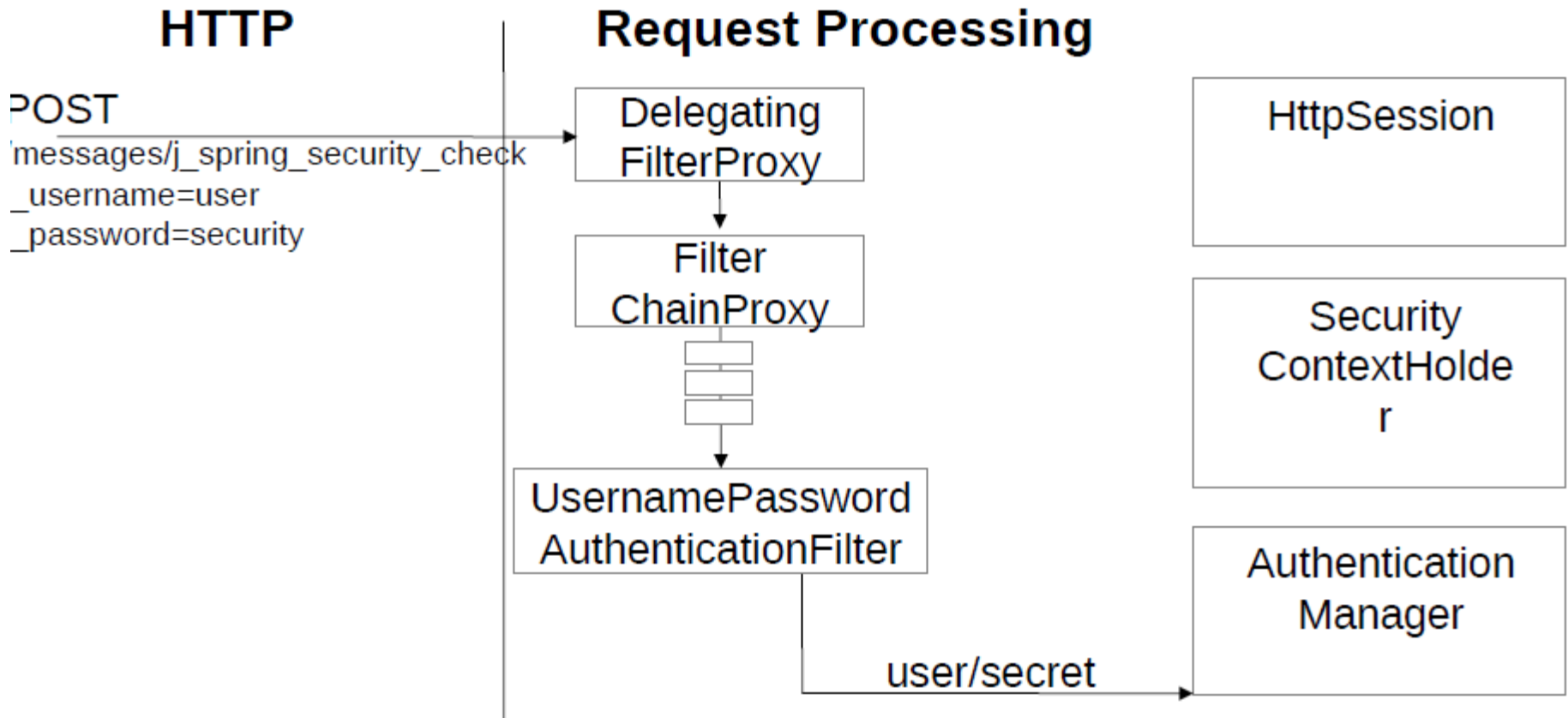
Request Processing



HttpSession

Security
ContextHolder

Understanding How spring security works?



Understanding How spring security works?

HTTP

POST

/messages/j_spring_security_check

j_username=user

j_password=security

Request Processing

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

UsernamePassword
AuthenticationFilter

HttpSession

Security
ContextHolder

user

Authentication
Manager

user/secret



HTTP

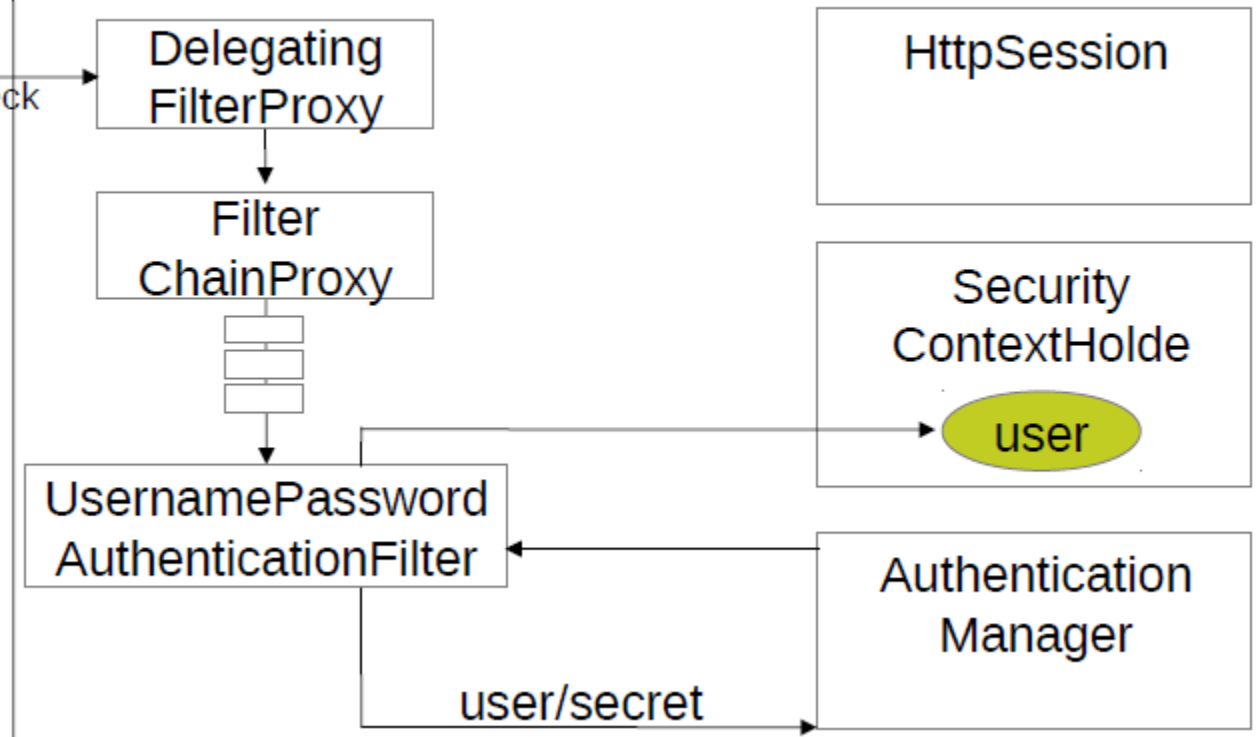
POST

/messages/j_spring_security_check

j_username=user

j_password=security

Request Processing



HTTP

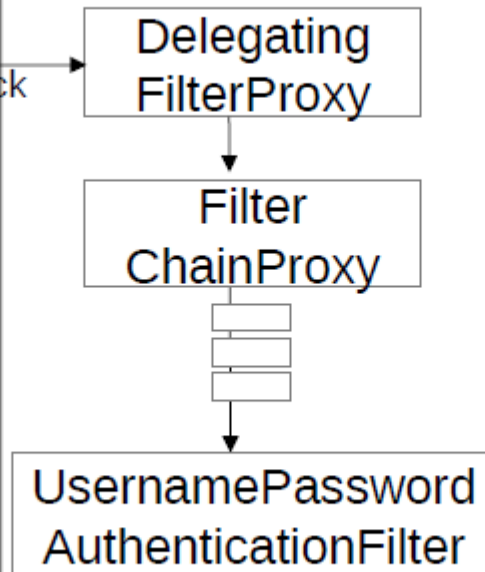
POST

/messages/j_spring_security_check

j_username=user

j_password=security

Request Processing



HttpSession

Security
ContextHolder

user

HTTP

POST

/messages/j_spring_security_check

j_username=user

j_password=security

302

Saved Request

Request Processing

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

UsernamePassword
AuthenticationFilter

HttpSession

Security
ContextHolder

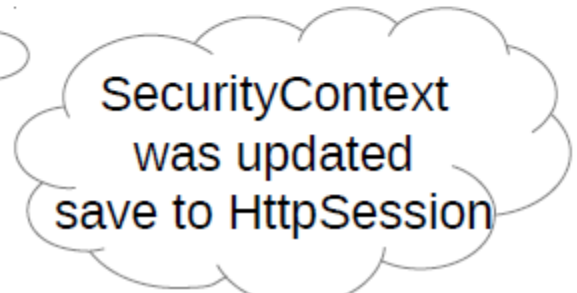
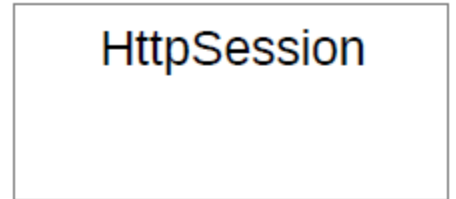
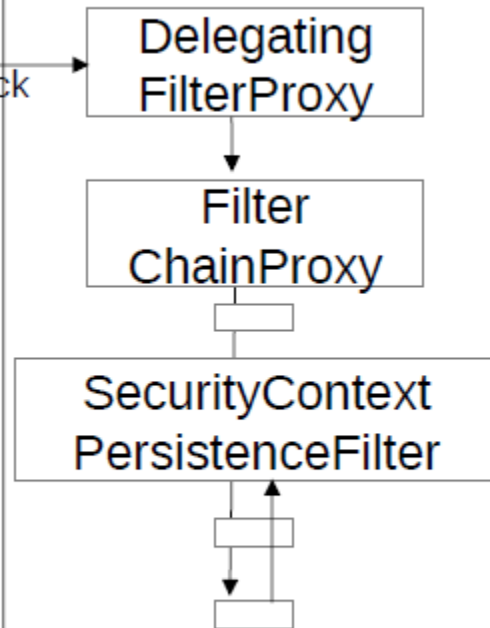
user

HTTP

POST

'messages/j_spring_security_check
_username=user
_password=security

Request Processing

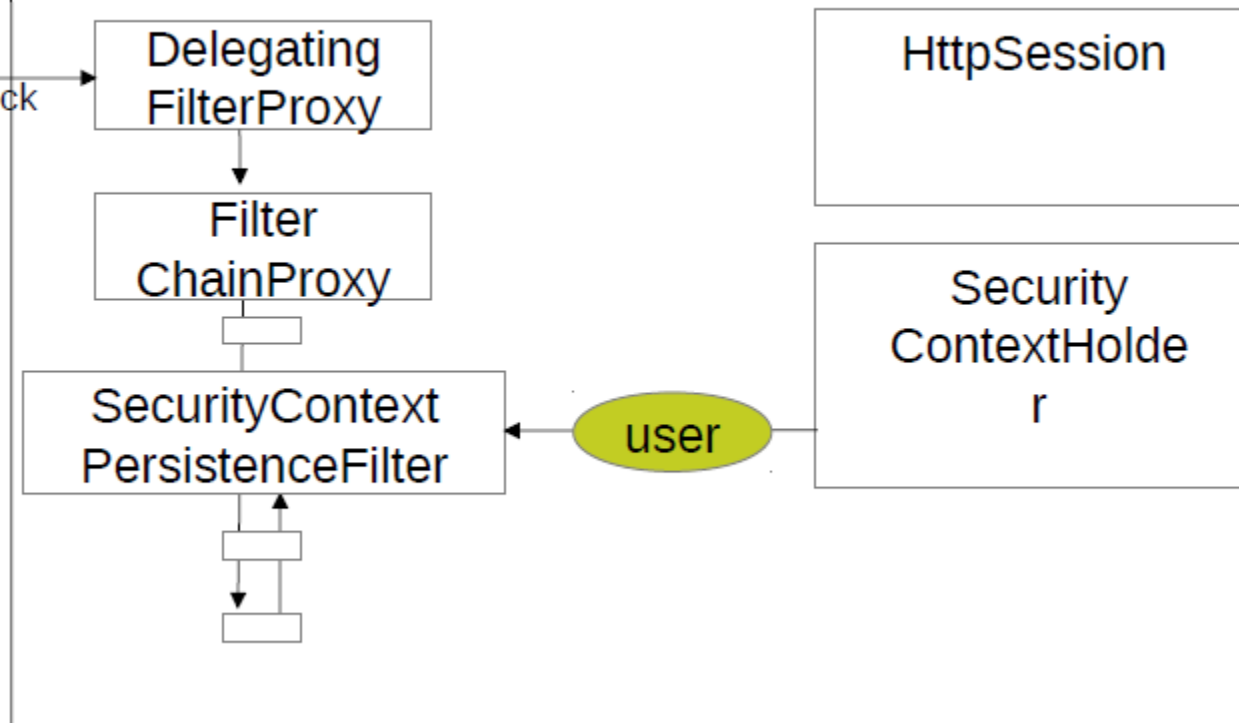


HTTP

Request Processing

POST

/messages/j_spring_security_check
_username=user
_password=security

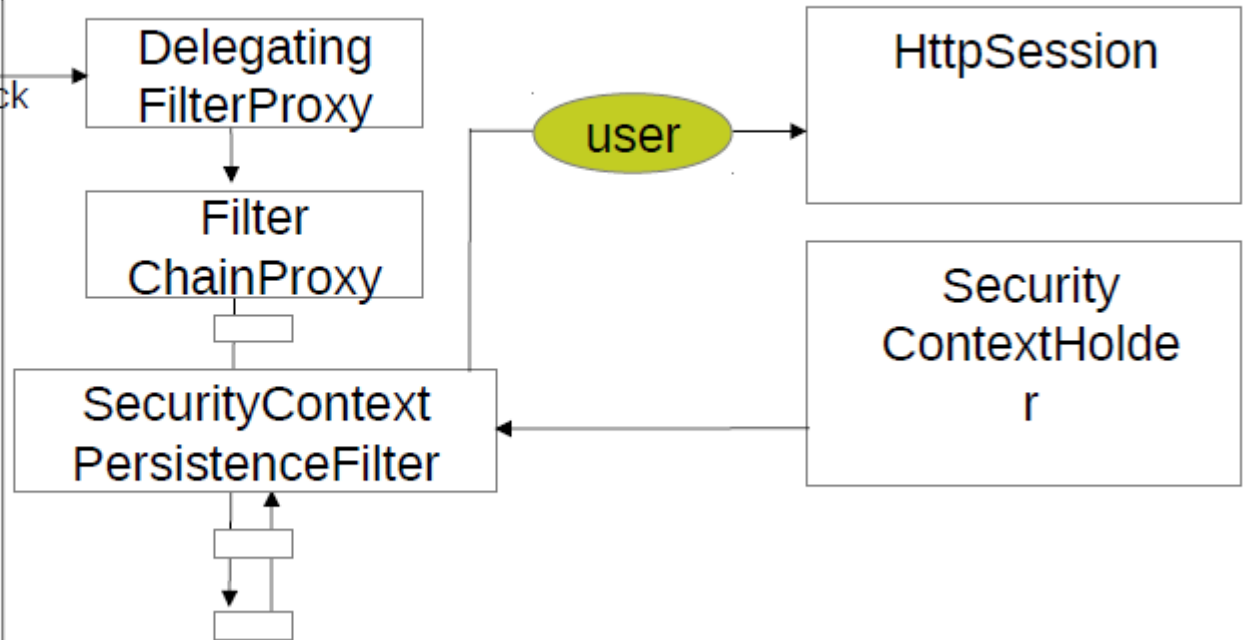


HTTP

POST

/messages/j_spring_security_check
j_username=user
j_password=security

Request Processing

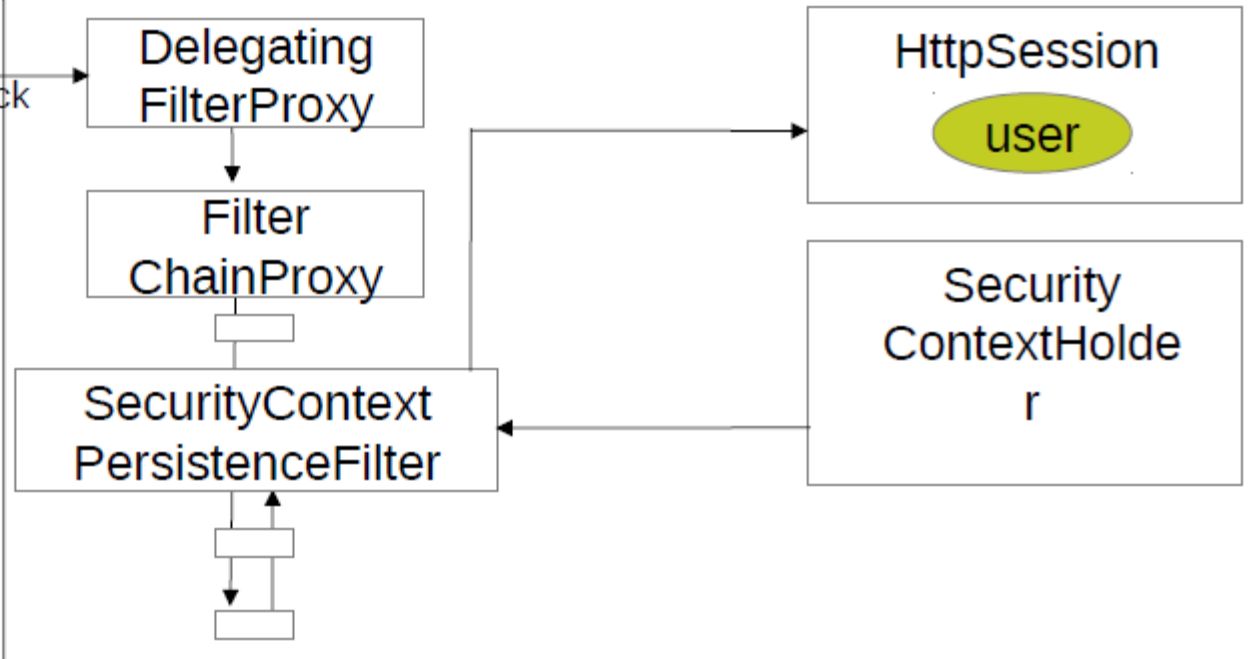


HTTP

POST

'messages/j_spring_security_check
_username=user
_password=security

Request Processing



HTTP

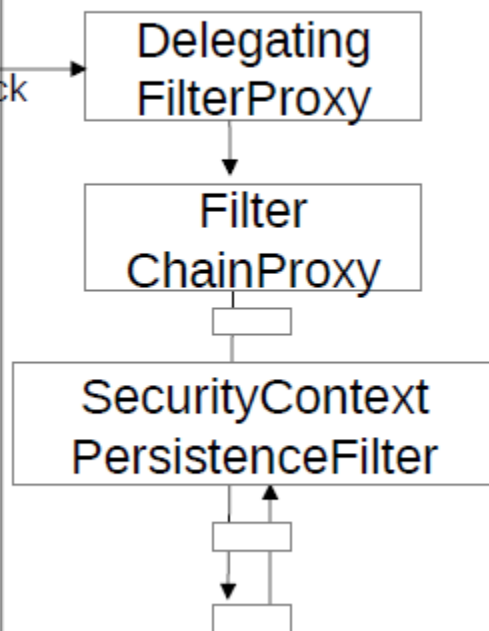
POST

/messages/j_spring_security_check

j_username=user

j_password=security

Request Processing



HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolder

HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing

HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolder



HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolder



HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

SecurityContext
PersistenceFilter

HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolder

HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

SecurityContext
PersistenceFilter

HttpSession
user

Security
ContextHolder

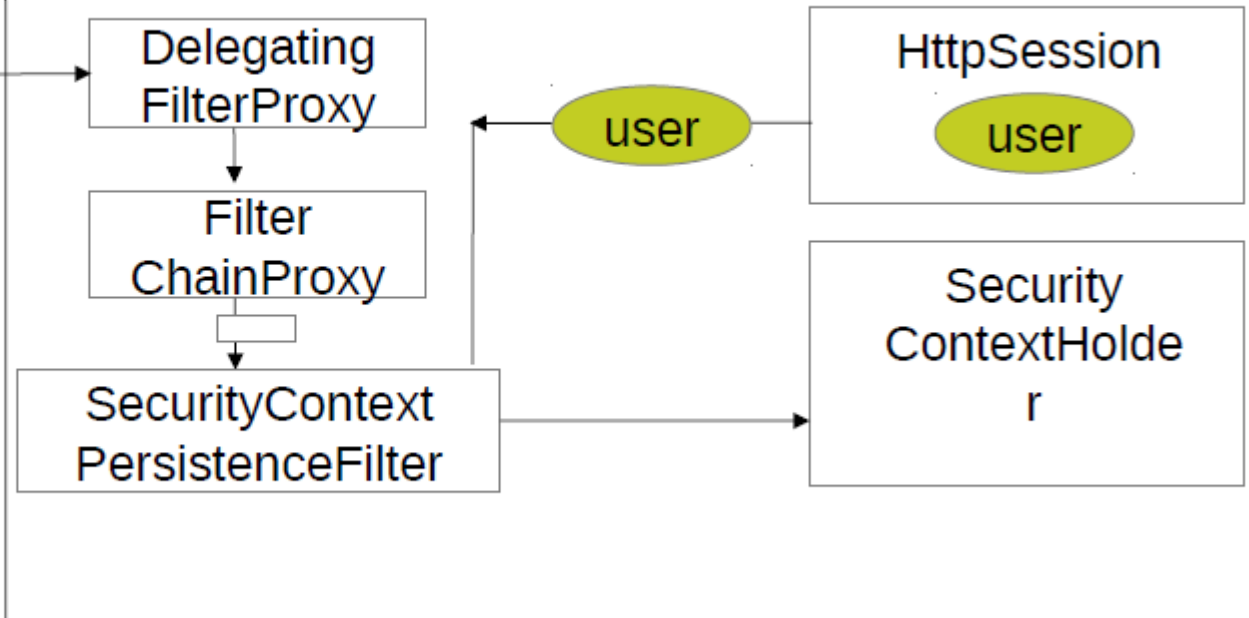
Update
SecurityContext
Holder



HTTP

Saved Request

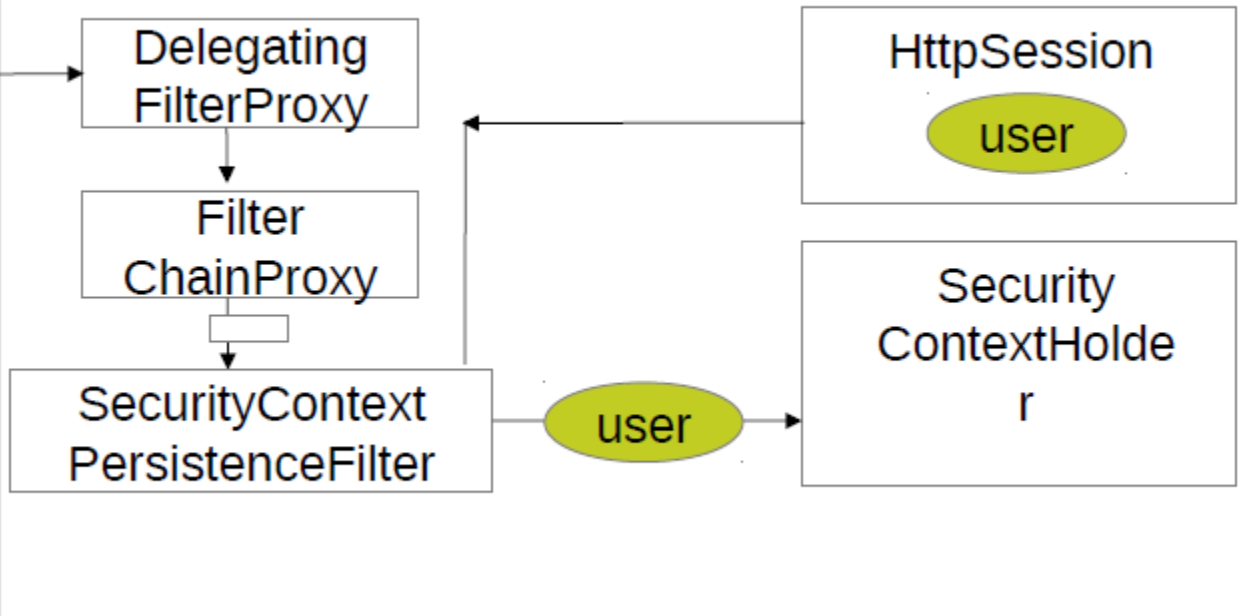
Request Processing



HTTP

Request Processing

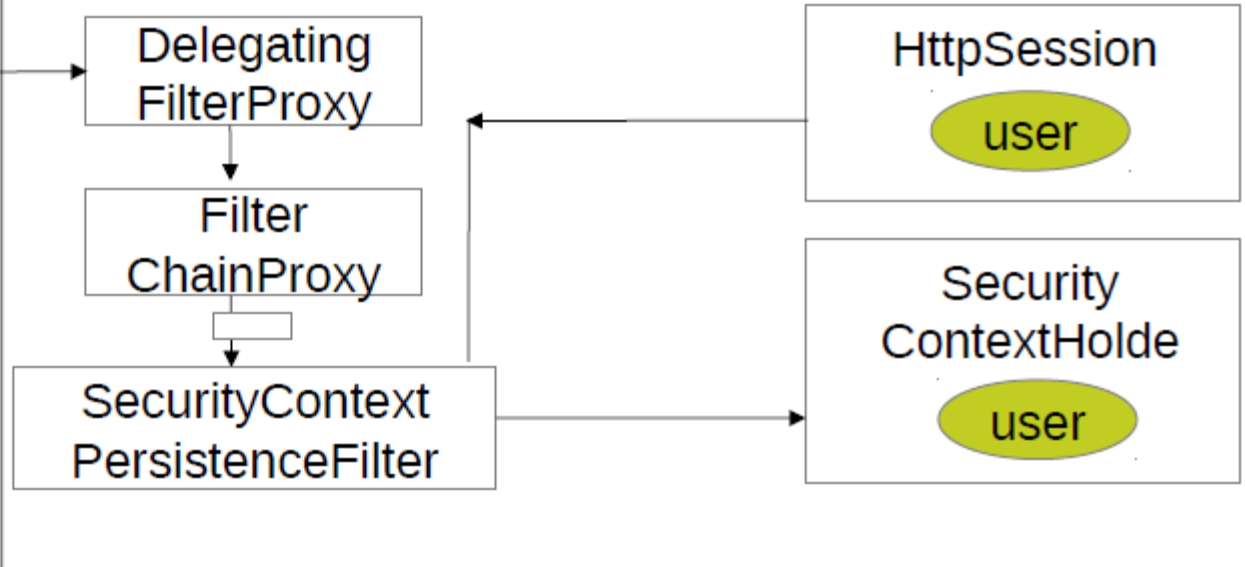
Saved Request



HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing



HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

SecurityContext
PersistenceFilter

HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolder

user



HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

RequestCache
AwareFilter

filterChain.doFilter(savedRequest, response)

HttpSession

user

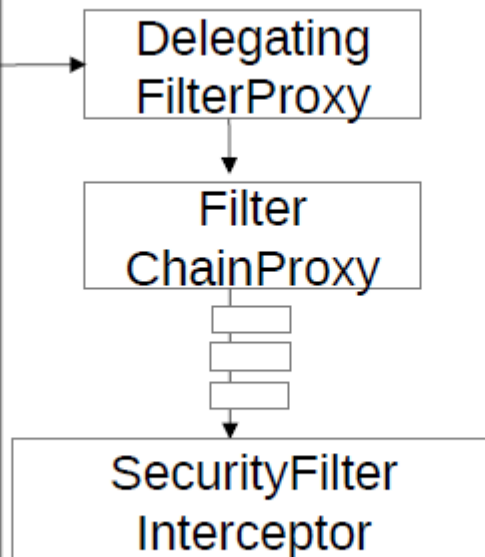
Security
ContextHolder

user

HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing



HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolder

user

HTTP

Request Processing

Saved Request

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

SecurityFilter
Interceptor

HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolder

user

Current user has
ROLE_USER
Grant Access



HTTP

Request Processing

Saved Request

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

SecurityFilter
Interceptor

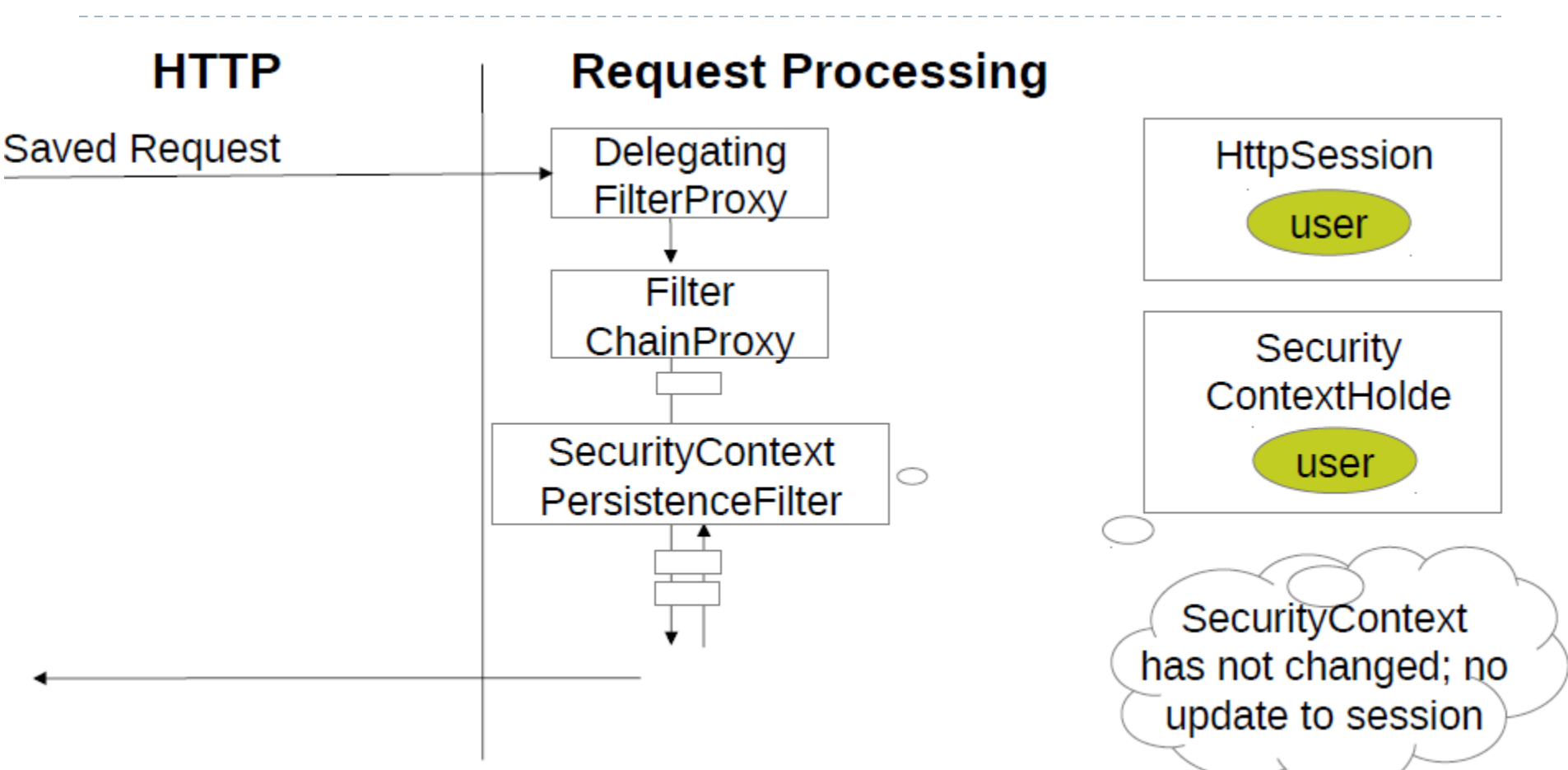
HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolder

user





HTTP

Request Processing

Saved Request

Delegating
FilterProxy

Filter
ChainProxy

SecurityContext
PersistenceFilter

HttpSession
user

Security
ContextHolder
user

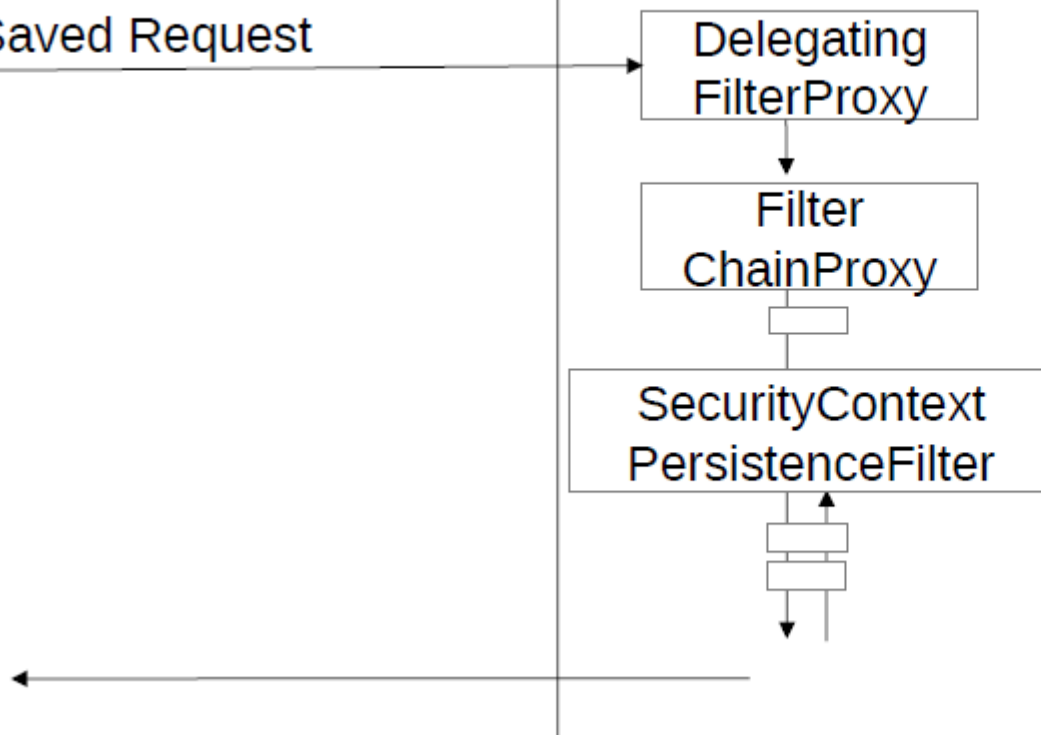
Clear
SecurityContextHolder



HTTP

Saved Request

Request Processing



HttpSession

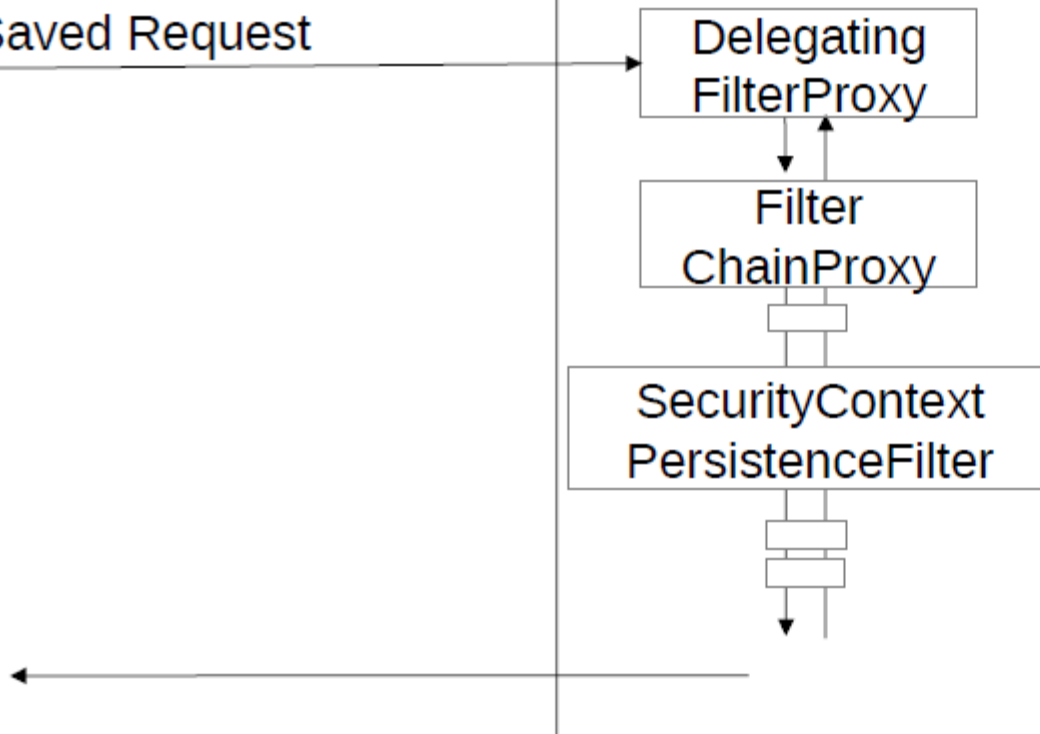
user

Security
ContextHolder

HTTP

Request Processing

Saved Request



HttpSession

user

Security
ContextHolve
r

























































Getting started with Spring Security

- ▶ No matter what kind of application you want to secure using Spring Security, the first thing to do is to add the Spring Security modules to the application's classpath. Spring Security 3.0 is divided into eight modules, as listed
- ▶ At the least, you'll want to include the Core and Configuration modules in your application's classpath. Spring Security is often used to secure web applications.

Table 9.1 Spring Security is partitioned into eight modules.

Module	Description
ACL	Provides support for domain object security through access control lists (ACLs)
CAS Client	Provides integration with JA-SIG's Central Authentication Service (CAS)
Configuration	Contains support for Spring Security's XML namespace
Core	Provides the essential Spring Security library
LDAP	Provides support for authentication using the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP)
OpenID	Provides integration with the decentralized OpenID standard
Tag Library	Includes a set of JSP tags for view-level security
Web	Provides Spring Security's filter-based web security support

Configuration

- ▶ For an Simple web application, we've separated all of the security-specific configuration into a separate Spring configuration file called xxx-security.xml. Since all of the configuration in this file will be from the security namespace, we've changed the security namespace to be the primary namespace for that file

Listing 9.2 Using the security namespace as the default namespace

```
<beans:beans xmlns:beans="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans"
  xmlns="http://www.springframework.org/schema/security"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans
    http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans/spring-beans-3.0.xsd
    http://www.springframework.org/schema/security
    http://www.springframework.org/schema/security/spring-security-3.0.xsd">
  <!-- Non-prefixed security elements go here -->
</beans:beans>
```

Securing web requests

- ▶ Security in an typical web application start with an `HttpServletRequest`
- ▶ The most basic form of request-level security involves declaring one or more URL patterns as requiring some level of granted authority and preventing users without that authority from accessing the content behind those URLs. We may require that certain URLs can only be accessed over HTTPS
- ▶ Before you can restrict access to users with certain privileges, there must be a way to know who's using the application. Therefore, the application will need to authenticate the user, prompting them to log in and identify themselves.



Proxying servlet filters

- ▶ Spring Security employs several servlet filters to provide various aspects of security , but we do not need to configure all (Relax!)
- ▶ We only need to configure one filter in the application's web.xml file (Spring magic). Specifically, we'll need to add the following <filter>

```
<filter>
  <filter-name>springSecurityFilterChain</filter-name>
  <filter-class>
    org.springframework.web.filter.DelegatingFilterProxy
  </filter-class>
</filter>
```

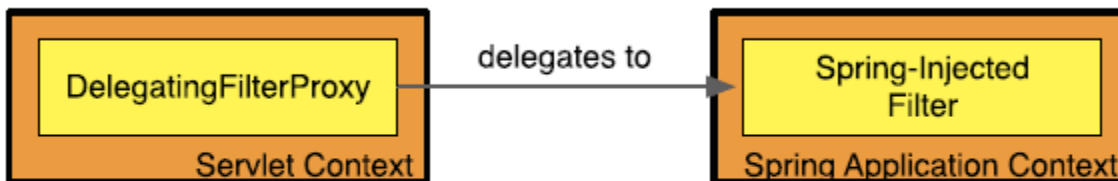


Figure 9.1 `DelegatingFilterProxy` proxies filter handling to a delegate filter bean in the Spring application context.

How it works?

- ▶ DelegatingFilterProxy is a special servlet filter that, by itself, doesn't do much. Instead, it delegates to an implementation of javax.servlet.
- ▶ Filter that's registered as a <bean> in the Spring application context
- ▶ The value given as DelegatingFilterProxy's <filter-name> is significant. This is the name used to look up the filter bean from the Spring application context.
- ▶ Spring Security will automatically create a filter bean whose ID is springSecurityFilter- Chain, so that's the name we've given to DelegatingFilterProxy in web.xml



Configuring minimal web security

- ▶ We need to use below snippet of XML for configuration of

```
Spi <http auto-config="true">
    <intercept-url pattern="/**" access="ROLE_SPITTER" />
</http>
```

- ▶ These humble three lines of XML configure Spring security to intercept requests for all URLs (as specified by the Ant-style path in the pattern attribute of <intercept-url>) and restrict access to only authenticated users who have the ROLE_SPITTER role.
- ▶ The <http> element automatically sets up a FilterChainProxy (which is delegated to by the DelegatingFilterProxy we configured in web.xml) and all of the filter beans in the chain.
- ▶ In addition to those filter beans, we also get a few more freebies by setting the auto-config attribute to true. Autoconfiguration gives our application a

```
free      <http>                                port for
logg      <form-login />                        explicitly
askii     <http-basic />
          <logout />
          <intercept-url pattern="/**" access="ROLE_SPITTER" />
          </http>
```