Lab 3 Questions

By Sandy Huang

Question 1: How do you inspect all environment variables in Python?

To inspect all environment variables in python you can use "os.environ" to see all of python's environment variables.

Question 2: What environment variable contains the query parameter data?

The environment variable "QUERY_STRING" contains the query parameter data.

Question 3: What environment variable contains information about the user's browser?

The environment variable "HTTP_USER_AGENT" provides the information about the user's browser.

Question 4: How does the POSTed data come to the CGI script?

The "FieldStorage" class stores the data filled out in the username & password fields and then retrieves those values using the method ".getvalue()" in order to display the username and password posted on the CGI script.

Question 5: What is the HTTP header syntax to set a cookie from the server?

The HTTP header syntax for setting a cookie is "Set-Cookie: <cookie-name>=<cookie-value>"

Question 6: What is the HTTP header syntax the browser uses to send the cookie back?

The HTTP header syntax for sending the cookie back is:

"Cookie: <cookie-name> = <cookie-value>"

Question 7: In your own words, what are cookies used for?

We use cookies to easily store and retrieve information in the form of key-value pairs. Cookies are used mainly to store and track information in variables about users that visit their webpages.

For instance, when I was younger and played flash player games, I noticed some of the games I had closed my browser on and came back had my game levels saved. Didn't realize it at the time but those must have been cookies keeping my progress.

Question 8: What is the link to your code on GitHub?

https://github.com/shearpaladin/cgi-lab