

#### CS 253 Cyber Security Building Secure Web Apps

ShanghaiTech University

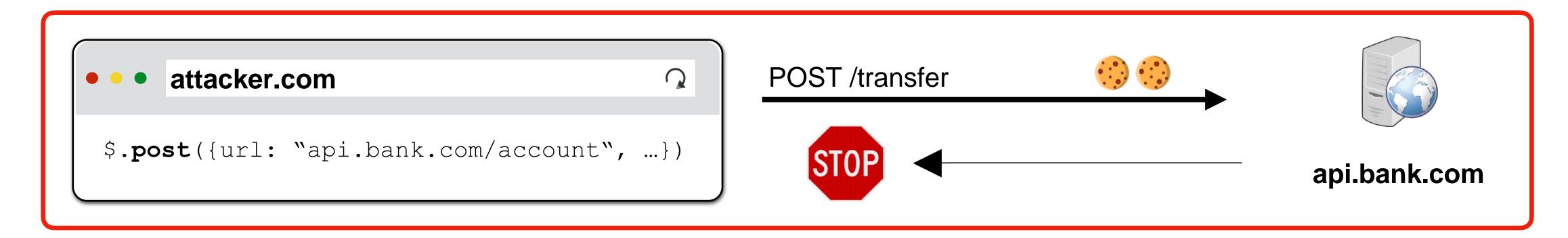
#### Admin

- Project 2 is released
- Spectre Attack (classical ver.) demo
- Code skeleton can be found on course website or Piazza resources
- Submission on Gradescope (C code)
- Keep in mind that ONLY your LAST ACTIVE uploaded version will be graded
- Deadline 11/15 (Sat) 23:59



#### Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

## Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)



Cross-site request forgery (CSRF) attacks are a type of web exploit where a website transmits unauthorized commands as a user that the server trusts

In a CSRF attack, a user is tricked into submitting an unintended (often unrealized) web request to a website — generally takes advantage of session cookies

You need to actively build defenses into web apps to protect against CSRF attacks

#### Options for Preventing CSRF Attacks

Do not trust cookies to indicate whether an authorized application submitted request since they're included in every (in-scope) request

We need another mechanism that allows us to ensure that a request is authentic (coming from a trusted page)

Three commonly used techniques to validate intent:

- Referer Header Validation
- Secret Validation Token
- Custom HTTP Header (forces CORS Pre-Flight Permissions Check)

Or, simply, don't send cookies to other domains:

- sameSite Cookies

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Three Two commonly used techniques to validate intent:

Deferer Logier Velic

Form Submissions

- Secret Validation Token

Javascript Requests

- Custom HTTP Header (forces CORS Pre-Flight Permissions Check)

Or, simply, don't send cookies to other domains:

- sameSite Cookies

#### Options for Preventing CSRF Attacks

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V a

What about GET Requests?



NEVER Change Application
State based on a GET request

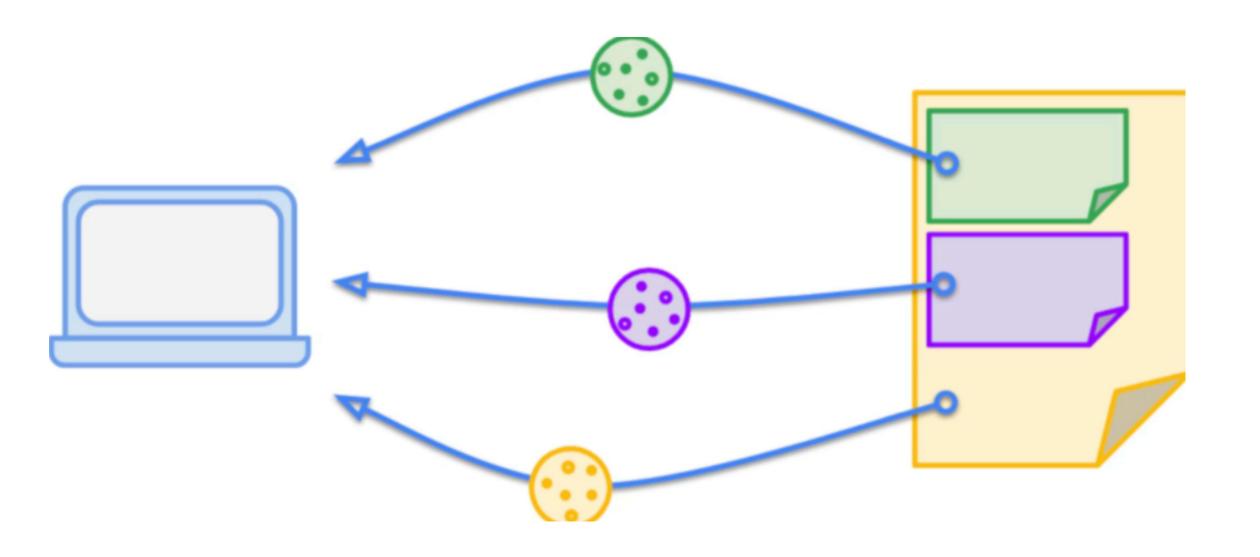
Or, simply, don't send cookies to other domains:

- sameSite Cookies

#### sameSite Cookies

Cookies that match the domain of the current site, i.e. what's *currently* displayed in the browser's address bar, are referred to as **first-party cookies** 

Cookies from domains other than the current site are **third-party cookies**Cookies marked as **sameSite are only sent** if first party



Will not be sent for image, form post if URL bar != origin of resource

#### Two Modes

sameSite cookie setting can be in two modes:

Strict Mode (SameSite=Strict): The cookie will only be sent if the site for the cookie matches the site currently shown in the browser's URL bar.

Problem: If you're on **Site A**, click on a link to **Site B**, then **Site B** won't receive cookie because when you clicked on the link, URL bar said **Site A** (or, if you simply typed the site into the URL bar

Lax Mode (SameSite=Lax): Allows cookie to be sent with these top-level navigations.

## A Properly Secured Cookie

- 1. Don't set domain, unless you need to (increases scope)
- 2. Add Necessary Security Restrictions

```
Only Allowed Over HTTPS
```

```
Set-Cookie: key=value; Secure; HttpOnly;
SameSite=Lax;
```

**Prevent CSRF Attacks** 

Don't Allow Javascript Access through DOM

#### SQL Injection

The goal of command injection attacks is to execute an arbitrary command on the system. Typically possible when a developer passes unsafe user data into a shell.

Example: head100 — simple program that cats first 100 lines of a program

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    char *cmd = malloc(strlen(argv[1]) + 100);
    strcpy(cmd, "head -n 100 ");
    strcat(cmd, argv[1]);
    system(cmd);
}
```

#### Source:

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    char *cmd = malloc(strlen(argv[1]) + 100);
    strcpy(cmd, "head -n 100 ");
    strcat(cmd, argv[1]);
    system(cmd);
}
```

#### **Normal Input:**

```
./head10 myfile.txt -> system("head -n 100 myfile.txt")
```

#### Source:

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    char *cmd = malloc(strlen(argv[1]) + 100);
    strcpy(cmd, "head -n 100 ");
    strcat(cmd, argv[1]);
    system(cmd);
}
```

#### **Adversarial Input:**

```
./head10 "myfile.txt; rm -rf /home"
-> system("head -n 100 myfile.txt; rm -rf /home");
```

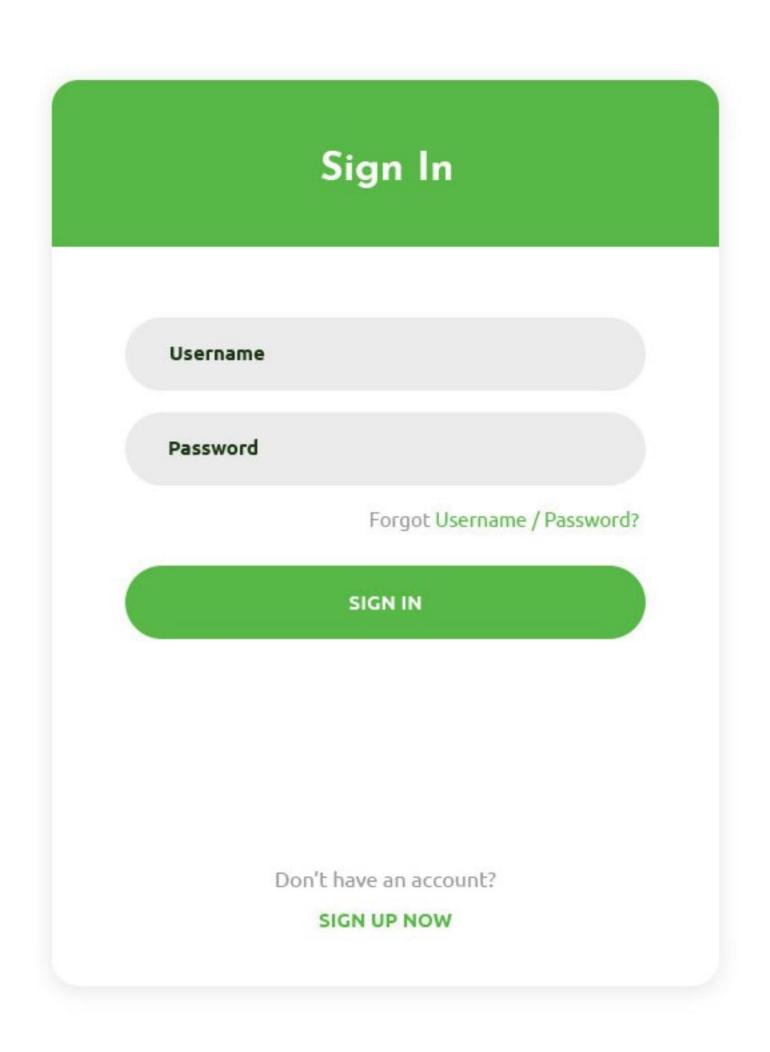
# SQL Injection

Last examples all focused on shell injection

Command injection oftentimes occurs when developers try to build SQL queries that use user-provided data

Known as SQL injection

## SQL Injection Example



```
$login = $ POST['login'];
$pass = $ POST['password'];
$sql = "SELECT id FROM users
        WHERE username = '$login'
        AND password = '$password'";
$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);
if $rs.count > 0 {
     success
```

#### Non-Malicious Input

```
$u = $_POST['login']; // zakir
$pp = $_POST['password']; // 123

$sql = "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = '$u' AND pwd = '$p'";

$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);
if $rs.count > 0 {
    // success
}
```

#### Non-Malicious Input

```
$u = $_POST['login']; // zakir
$pp = $_POST['password']; // 123

$sql = "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = '$u' AND pwd = '$p'";

// "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = 'zakir' AND pwd = '123'"

$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);

if $rs.count > 0 {
    // success
}
```

## Bad Input

```
$u = $ POST['login']; // zakir
$pp = $ POST['password']; // 123'
$sql = "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = '$u' AND pwd = '$p'";
      "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = 'zakir' AND pwd = '123''"
$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);
// SQL Syntax Error
if $rs.count > 0 {
   // success
```

#### Malicious Input

```
$u = $ POST['login']; // zakir'--
$pp = $ POST['password']; // 123
$sql = "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = '$u' AND pwd = '$p'";
    "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = 'zakir'-- AND pwd..."
$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);
// (No Error)
if $rs.count > 0 {
   // Success!
```

#### No Username Needed!

```
$u = $ POST['login']; // 'or 1=1 --
$pp = $ POST['password']; // 123
$sql = "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = '$u' AND pwd = '$p'";
// "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = ''or 1=1 -- AND pwd..."
$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);
// (No Error)
if $rs.count > 0 {
  // Success!
```

# Causing Damage

```
$u = $_POST['login']; // '; DROP TABLE [users] --
$pp = $_POST['password']; // 123

$sql = "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = '$u' AND pwd = '$p'";

// "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = ''DROP TABLE [users]--"
$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);

// No Error...(and no more users table)
```

#### MSSQLxp\_cmdshell

Microsoft SQL server lets you run arbitrary system commands!

```
xp_cmdshell { 'command_string' } [ , no_output ]
```

"Spawns a Windows command shell and passes in a string for execution. Any output is returned as rows of text."

#### Escaping Database Server

```
$u = $_POST['login']; // '; exec xp_cmdshell 'net user add usr pwd'--
$pp = $_POST['password']; // 123

$sql = "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = '$u' AND pwd = '$p'";

// "SELECT id FROM users WHERE uid = '';

exec xp_cmdshell 'net user add usr pwd123'-- "

$rs = $db->executeQuery($sql);

// No Error...(and with a resulting local system account)
```

## Preventing SQL Injection

Never trust user input (particularly when constructing a command)

Never manually build SQL commands yourself!

There are tools for safely passing user input to databases:

- Parameterized (AKA Prepared) SQL
- ORM (Object Relational Mapper) -> uses Prepared SQL internally

#### Parameterized SQL

Parameterized SQL allows you to send query and arguments separately to server

```
sql = "INSERT INTO users(name, email) VALUES(?,?)"

cursor.execute(sql, ['Dan Boneh', 'dabo@stanford.edu'])

separately from command.
Library doesn't need to escape

sql = "SELECT * FROM users WHERE email = ?"

cursor.execute(sql, ['zakird@stanford.edu'])
```

Benefit 1: No need to escape untrusted data — server handles behind the scenes

Benefit 2: Parameterized queries are *faster* because server caches query plan

## Object Relational Mappers

Object Relational Mappers (ORM) provide an interface between native objects and relational databases.

```
class User(DBObject):
    __id__ = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = Column(String(255))
    email = Column(String(255), unique=True)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    users = User.query(email='zakird@stanford.edu').all()
    session.add(User(email='dabo@stanford.edu', name='Dan Boneh'))
    session.commit()
```

# PACTESEE

#### Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

Cross Site Scripting: Attack occurs when application takes untrusted data and sends it to a web browser without proper validation or sanitization.

#### Command/SQL Injection

attacker's malicious code is executed on app's <u>server</u>

#### Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

attacker's malicious code is executed on victim's browser

Both due to mixing untrusted user content and code to be executed

# Content Security Policy (CSP)

You're always safer using a whitelist- rather than blacklist-based approach

Content-Security-Policy is an HTTP header that servers can send that declares which dynamic resources (e.g., Javascript) are allowed to execute

Good News: CSP eliminates XSS attacks by whitelisting the origins that are trusted sources of scripts and other resources and preventing all others

**Bad News:** CSP headers are complicated and folks frequently get the implementation incorrect.

## Example CSP—Javascript

Policies are defined as a set of directives for where different types of resources can be fetched. For example:

```
Content-Security-Policy: script-src 'self'
```

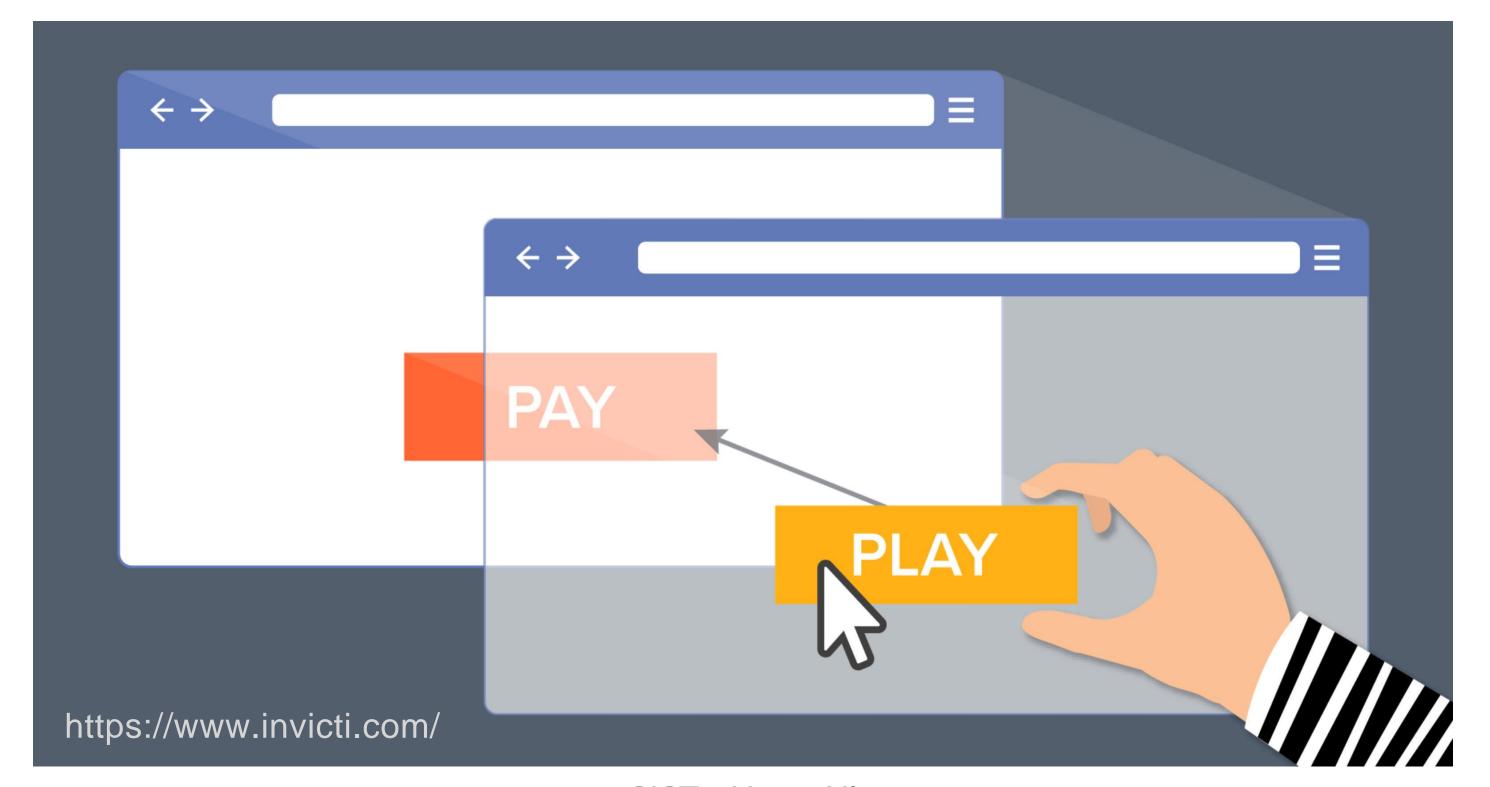
- → Javascript can only be loaded from the same domain as the page
- → No Javascript from any other origins will be executed
- → no inline <script></script> will be executed

# PAR ELIP

#### Clickjacking Attacks

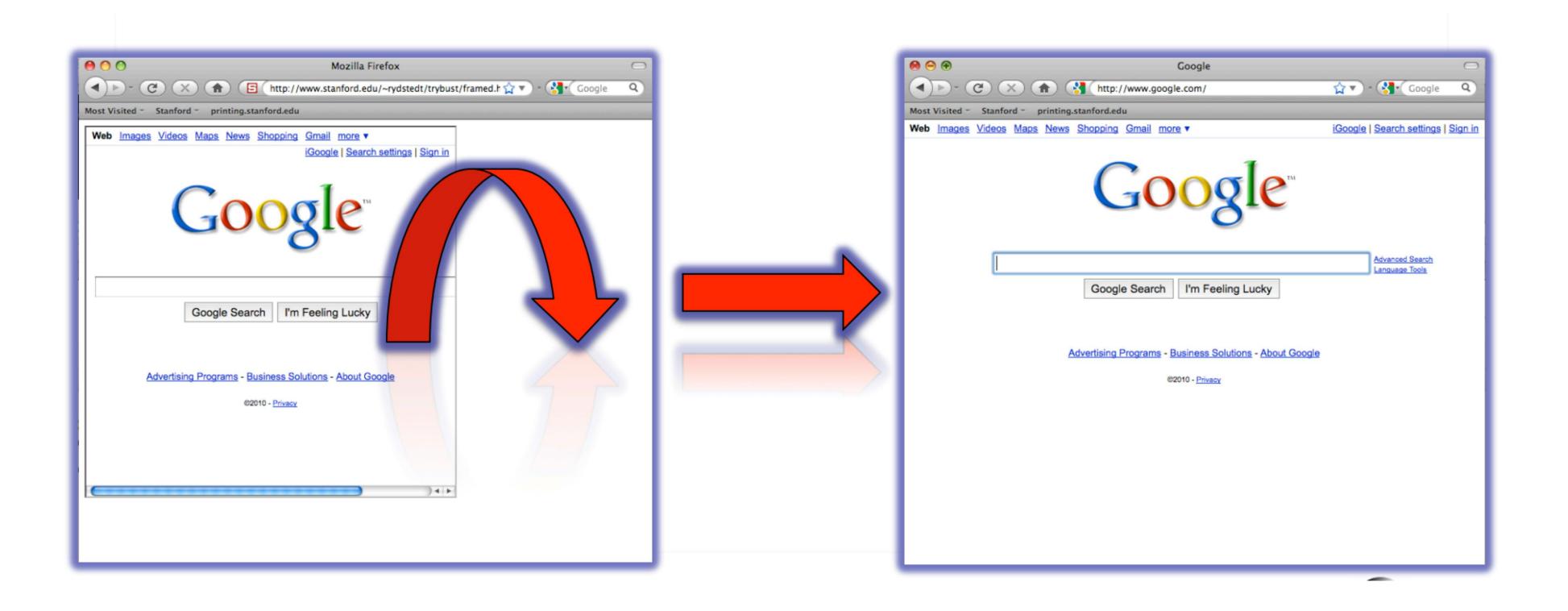
# Clickjacking

Attacker uses a transparent frame to trick a user into clicking on a button or link on another page when they were intending to click on the top level page.



#### Incorrect solution: framebusting

if (top != self) { top.location = self.location; }



Easy for parent to intercept and block call to change URL of page

#### Correct Solution: CSP

web browser

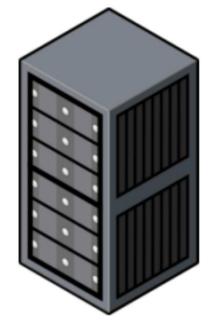




HTTP response from server:

HTTP/1.1 200 OK





Content-Security-Policy: frame-ancestors 'none';

•••

<iframe src='example.com'>
will cause an error

frame-ancestors 'self';
means only example.com
can frame page



#### Sub-Resource Integrity

## Third-Party Content Safety

Question: how do you safely load an object from a third party service?

```
<script src="https://code.jquery.com/jquery-3.4.0.js"></script>
```

If code.jquery.com is compromised, your site is too!

#### MaxCDN Compromise

2013: MaxCDN, which hosted bootstrapcdn.com, was compromised

MaxCDN had laid off a support engineer having access to the servers where BootstrapCDN runs. The credentials of the support engineer were not properly revoked. The attackers had gained access to these credentials.

Bootstrap JavaScript was modified to serve an exploit toolkit



## Sub-Resource Integrity (SRI)

SRI allows you to specify expected hash of file being included

```
<script
src="https://code.jquery.com/jquery-3.4.0.min.js"
integrity="sha256-BJeo0qm959uMBGb65z40ejJYGSgR1fNKwOg="
/>
```

## Sub-Resource Integrity (SRI)

```
<script src="https://code.jquery.com/jquery-3.5.1.min.js"
    integrity="sha256-9/aliU8dGd2tb6OSsuzixeV4y/faTqgFtohetphbbj0="
    crossorigin="anonymous">
    </script>
```

- Browser: (1) load sub-resource, (2) compute hash of contents, (3) compare value to the integrity attribute.
- if hash mismatch: script or stylesheet are not executed and an error is raised.

#### Enforce SRI with CSP

web browser



HTTP response from server:

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

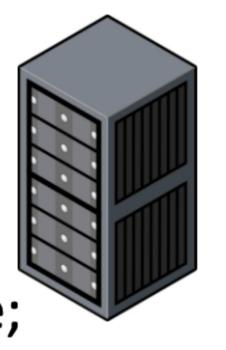
•••

Content-Security-Policy: require-sri-for script style;

•••

Requires SRI for all scripts and style sheets on page

example.com





#### Securely Using Cookies

## Cookies have no integrity

#### Users can change and delete cookie values

- \* Edit cookie database (FF: cookies.sqlite)
- \* Modify Cookie header (FF: TamperData extension)

#### **Shopping cart software**

```
Set-cookie: shopping-cart-total = 150 ($)
```

#### User edits cookie file (cookie poisoning):

```
Cookie: shopping-cart-total = 15 ($)
```

#### Similar problem with localStorage and hidden fields:

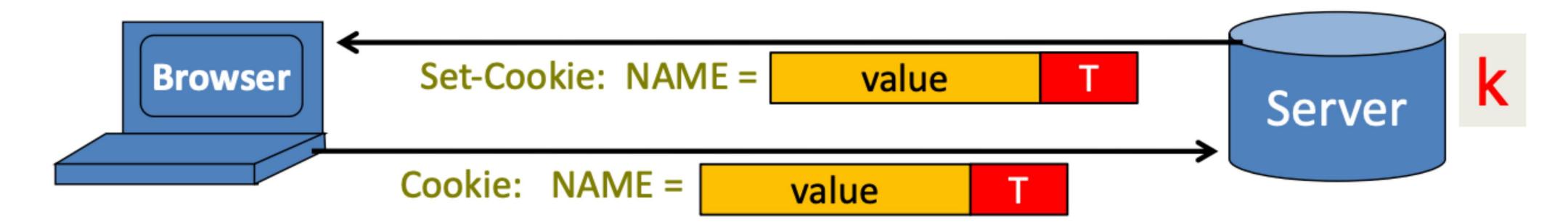
```
<INPUT TYPE="hidden" NAME=price VALUE="150">
```

#### Sign Cookies if Data

Goal: data integrity

Requires server-side secret key k unknown to browser

Generate tag: T ← MACsign(k, (SID, name, value))



Verify tag: MACverify(k, (SID, name, value), T)

Binding to session-id (SID) makes it harder to replay old cookies

## Protecting Cookies

Remember that you also need to limit the scope of when cookie can be used:

```
Set-Cookie: id=a3fWa;
Expires=Wed, 21 Oct 2015 07:28:00 GMT;
sameSite=Strict;
Secure;
HttpOnly
```

## PAGI SEVEN

## Authentication and Session Management

#### Pre-history: HTTP auth

HTTP request: GET /index.html

HTTP response contains:

WWW-Authenticate: Basic realm="Password Required"

Sign in	
https://crypto.stanford.edu	
Username	
Password	
	Cancel Sign In

Browsers sends hashed password on all subsequent HTTP requests:

Authorization: Basic ZGFddfibzsdfgkjheczI1NXRleHQ=



#### HTTP auth problems

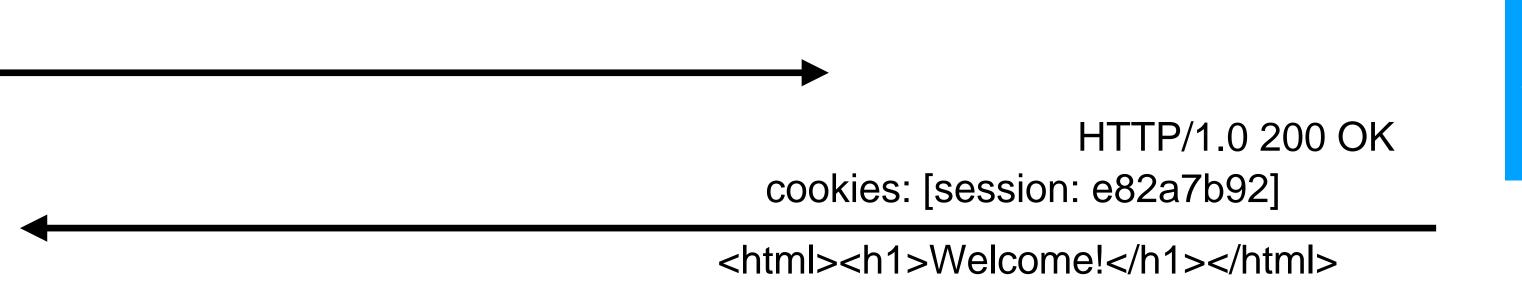
#### Hardly used in commercial sites:

- User cannot log out other than by closing browser
  - What if user has multiple accounts? multiple users on same machine?
- Site cannot customize password dialog
- Confusing dialog to users
- Easily spoofed

Do not use ...

GET / HTTP/1.1

cookies: []



Create Anonymous Session ID

GET / HTTP/1.1

cookies: []

HTTP/1.0 200 OK

cookies: [session: e82a7b92]

<a href="http://doi.org/10.1001/journal.org/">httm!></a>

Cookies: [session: e82a7b92]

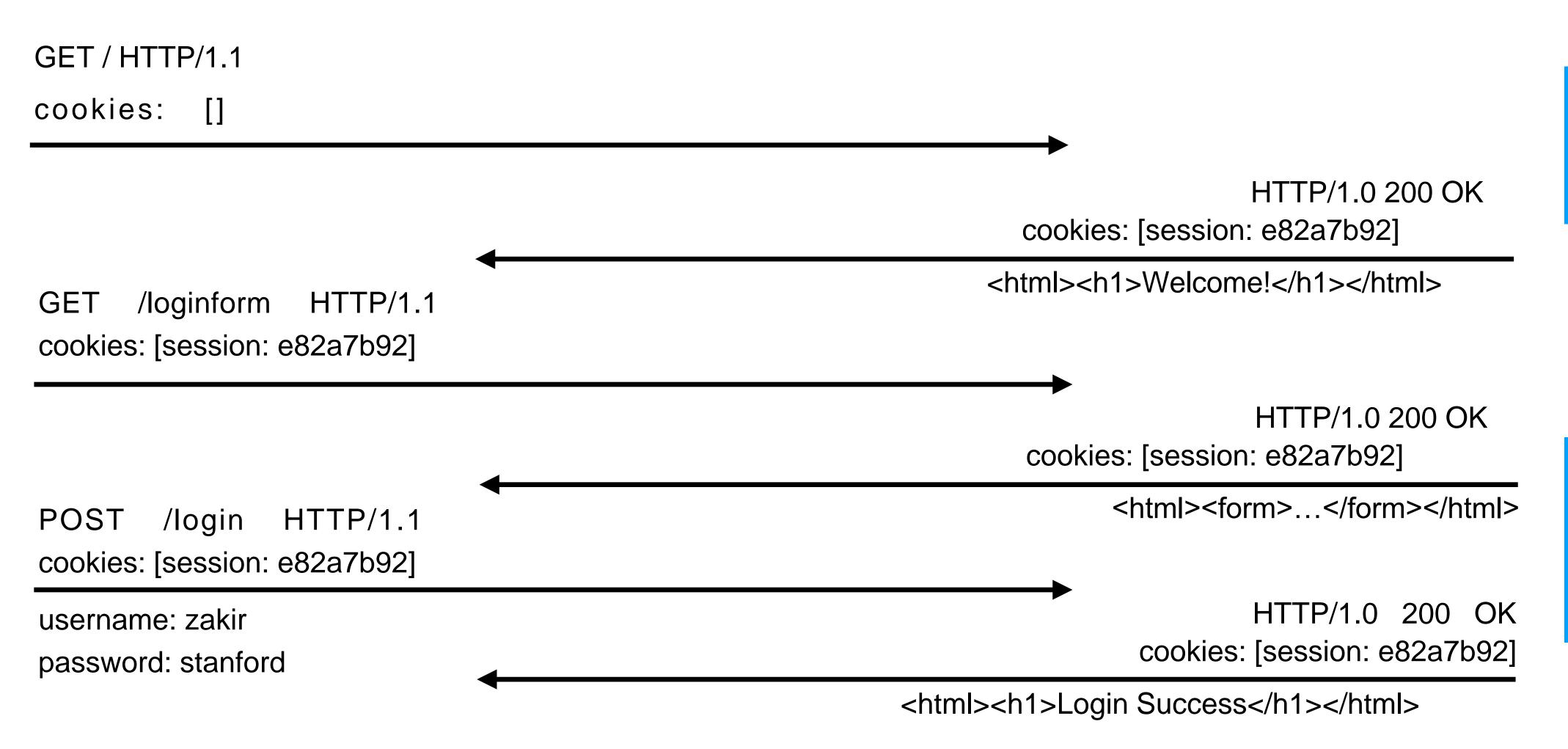
HTTP/1.0 200 OK

cookies: [session: e82a7b92]

<a href="http://doi.org/">httm!></a>

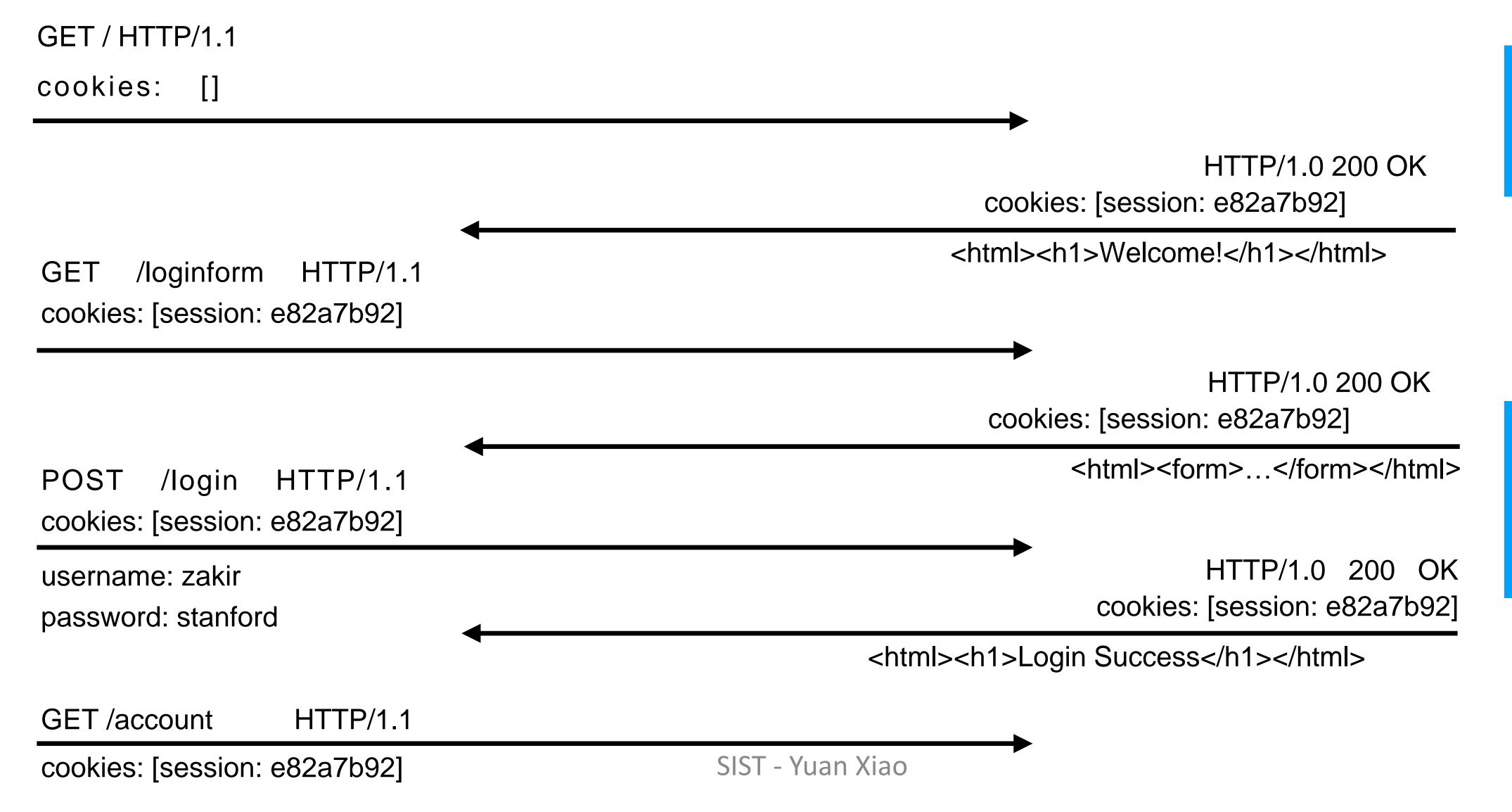
httm!><form>...</form></htm!>

Create Anonymous Session ID



Create Anonymous Session ID

Check
Credentials
+ Upgrade
Token



Create
Anonymous
Session ID

Check
Credentials
+ Upgrade
Token

#### Session Tokens

Session Token Pitfalls **Example 1:** counter

⇒ user logs in, gets counter value, can view sessions of other users

Example 2: weak MAC. token =  $\{userid, MAC_k(userid)\}$ 

Weak MAC exposes k from few cookies.

Session tokens must be unpredictable to attacker

To generate: use underlying framework (e.g. ASP, Tomcat, Rails)

Rails: token = SHA256( current time, random nonce )

#### Implementing Logout

Web sites must provide a logout function:

- Functionality: let user to login as different user
- Security: prevent others from abusing account

What happens during logout:

- 1. Delete SessionToken from client
- 2. Mark session token as expired on server

Problem: many web sites do (1) but not (2) !!

⇒ Especially risky in case of XSS vulnerability

#### How do you delete a cookie?

Cookies can have expiration dates

```
Set-Cookie: sessionID=XYZ; Expires=<Date>
```

To delete a cookie, set expiration to the past:

```
Set-Cookie: sessionID=;
Expires=Thu, 01 Jan 1970 00:00:00 GMT
```

#### Plain Text Passwords (Terrible)

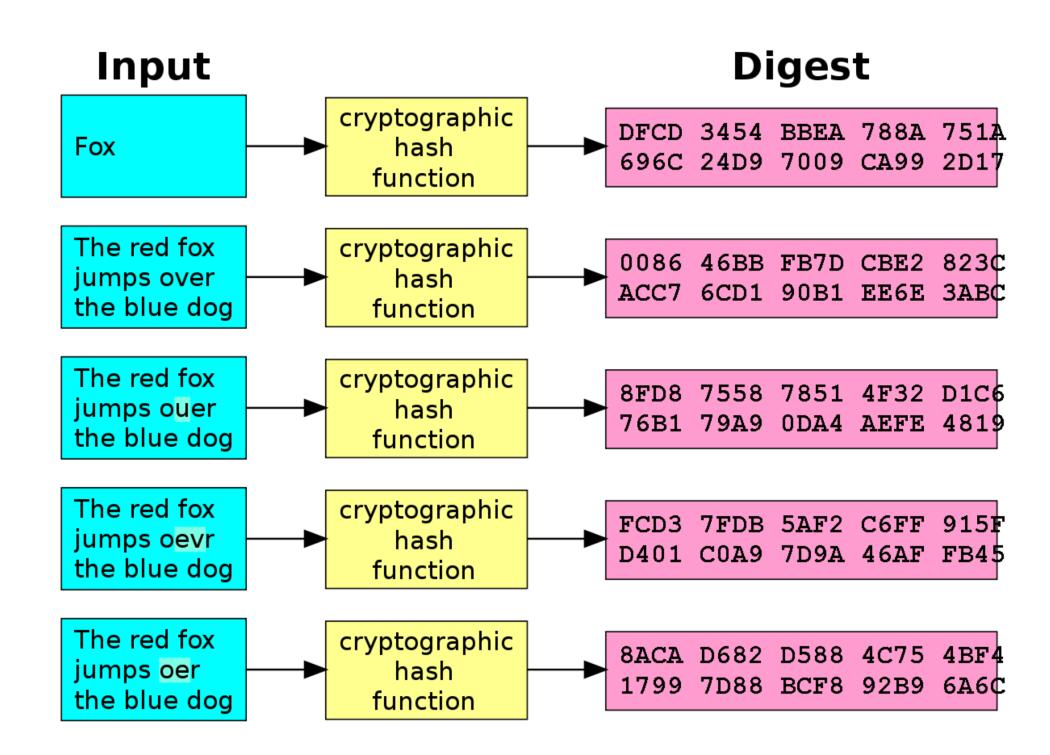
- Store the password and check match against user input
- Don't trust anything that can provide you your password

#### Plain Text Passwords (Terrible)

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#### Store Password Hash (Bad)

- Store SHA-1(pw) and check match against SHA-1(input)
- Weak against attacker who has hashed common passwords



#### Plain Text Passwords (Terrible)

- Store the password and check match against user input
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#### Store Password Hash (Bad)

- Store SHA-1(pw) and check match against SHA-1(input)
- Weak against attacker who has hashed common passwords

#### Store Salted Hash (Better)

- Store (r, Hash (pw | | r)) and check against Hash (input | | r)
- Prevents attackers from pre-computing password hashes

#### Store Salted Hash (Best)

- Store (r, H(pw | r)) and check match against H(input | r)
- Prevents attackers from pre-computing password hashes

Making sure to choose an **H** that's expensive to compute:

**SHA-512:** 3,235 MH/s

**SHA-3 (Keccak):** 2,500 MH/s

**BCrypt:** 43,551 H/s

Use bcrypt and salt passwords if you're storing passwords!

#### Password Requirement Downfalls

Complexity (e.g., as measured by entropy) isn't necessarily strong — users add complexity in predictable ways

Requiring users to regularly change passwords leads to weak passwords

Length is the most important factor for a secure password

#### Modern Password Recommendations

- Minimum password length should be at least 8 characters
- Maximum password length should be at least 64 characters
  - Do not allow unlimited length, to prevent denial-of-service
    - Common gotcha: bcrypt has a max length of 72 ASCII characters
- Check passwords against known breach datasets
- Rate-limit authentication attempts
- Encourage/require use of a second factor

#### Designing Login Workflows

- Helpful error messages can leak information to attackers
  - "Invalid User ID"
  - "Invalid password for User X"
  - "Login failed; account disabled"
- Correct response:
  - "Login failed; invalid User ID or Password"
- Not only login think about User Registration and Password Reset

#### Designing Login Workflows

- Helpful error messages can leak information to attackers
  - "Invalid User ID"
  - "Invalid password for User X"
  - "Login failed; account disabled"

In general, error messages should not leak any information about the state of a system (in the web or beyond)

#### • Correct response:

- "Login failed; invalid User ID or Password"
- Not only login think about User Registration and Password Reset

## Preventing Guessing

- It's your responsibility to also prevent attackers from guessing passwords of your users:
  - Limit the rate at which an attacker can make authentication attempts, or delay incorrect attempts
  - Track of IP addresses and limit the number of unsuccessful attempts
  - Temporarily lock user account after too many unsuccessful attempts

# PAR ESHT

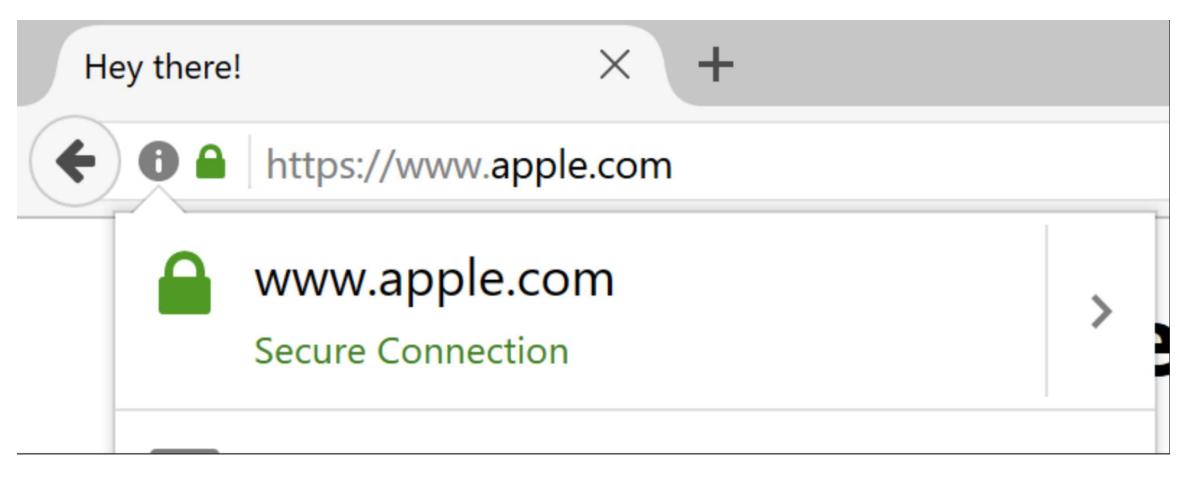
#### Phishing

#### What do Passwords Protect Against?

- A strong password can protect against:
  - Password spray: Testing a weak password against large number of accounts
  - **Brute force:** Testing multiple passwords from dictionary or other source against a single account
- But do not protect against:
  - Credential stuffing: Replaying passwords from a breach
  - Phishing: Man-in-the-middle, credential interception
  - Keystroke logging: Malware, sniffing
  - Extortion: Blackmail, insider threat

## Phishing

- Acting like a reputable entity to trick the user into divulging sensitive information such as login credentials or account information
- Often easier than attacking the security of a system directly
  - Just get the user to tell you their password



#### Internationalized Domain Names (IDN)

- Domain names consist of ASCII characters
- Hostnames containing Unicode characters are transcoded to subset of ASCII consisting of letters, digits, and hyphens called punycode
- Allows registering domains with foreign characters!
  - münchen.example.com → xn--mnchen-3ya.example.com

## IDN homograph attack

Many Unicode characters are difficult to distinguish from common ASCII characters

• apple.com vs. apple.com





#### Did you mean apple.com?

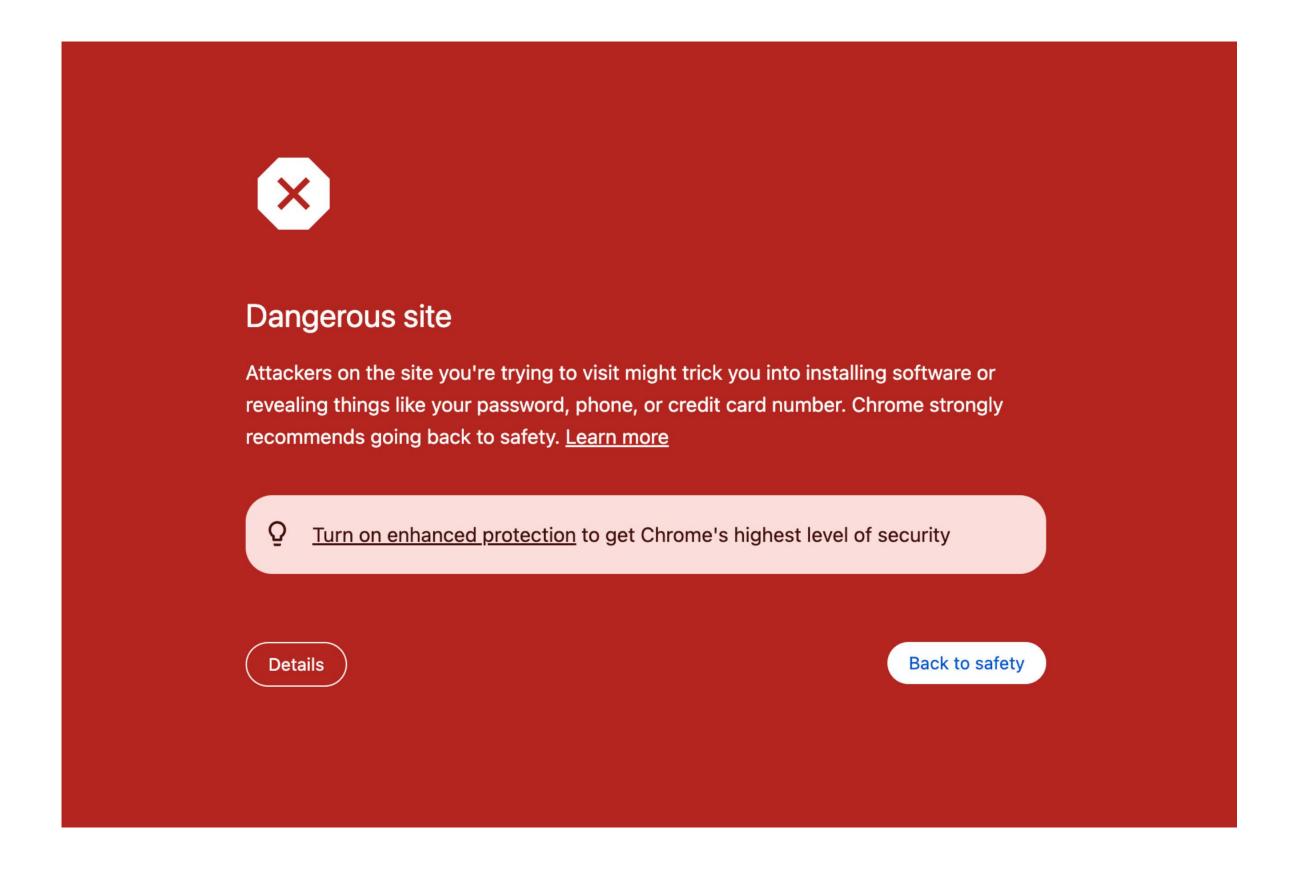
The site you just tried to visit looks fake. Attackers sometimes mimic sites by making small, hard-to-see changes to the URL.

Ignore

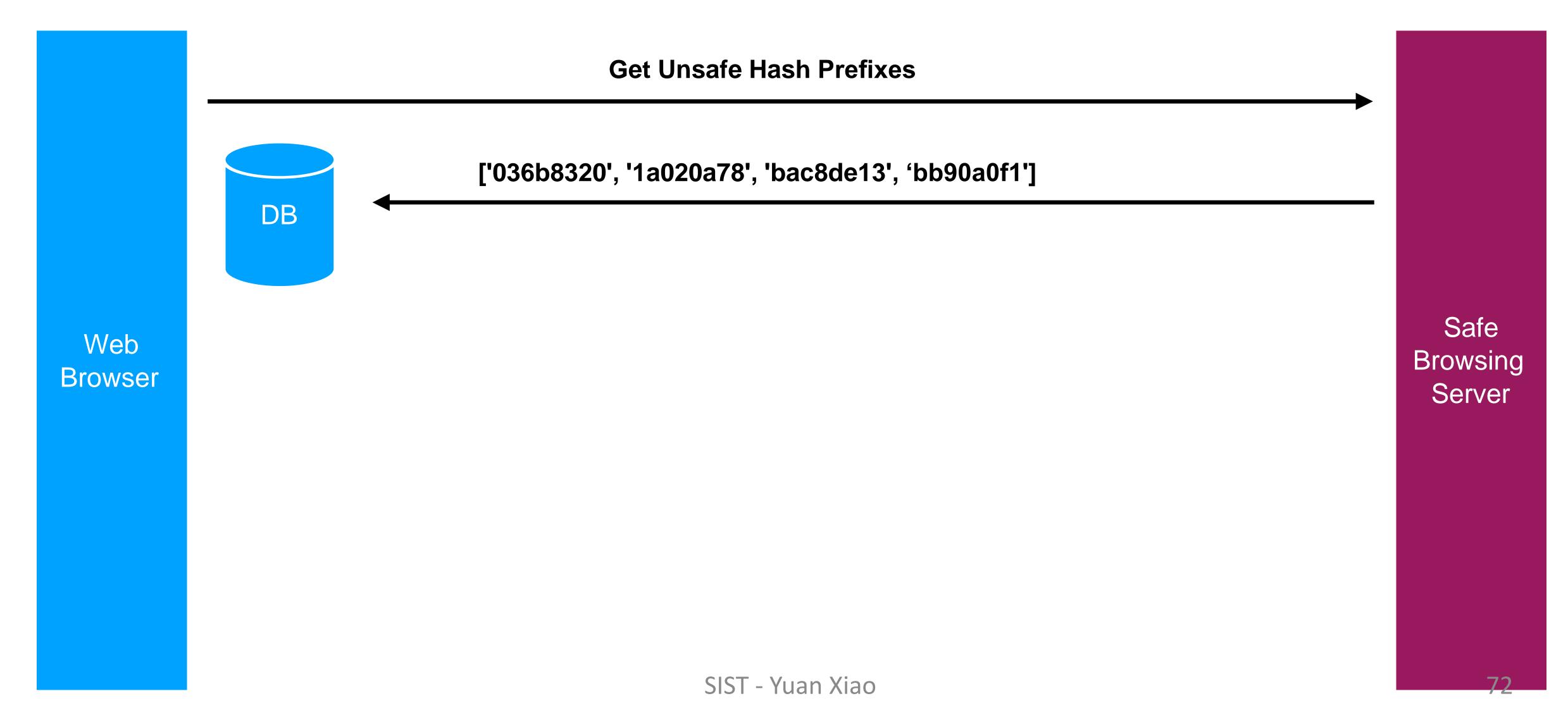
Go to apple.com

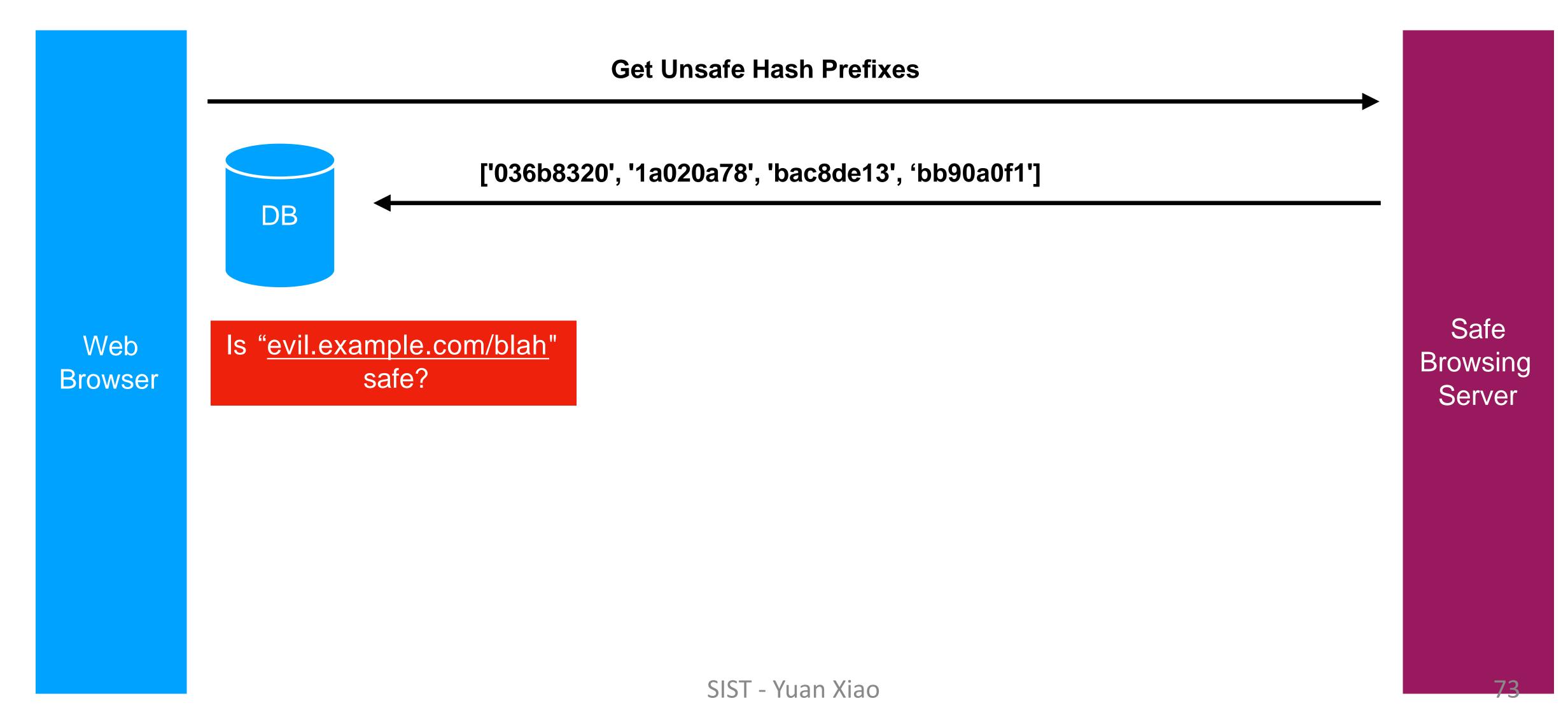
## Google Safe Browsing

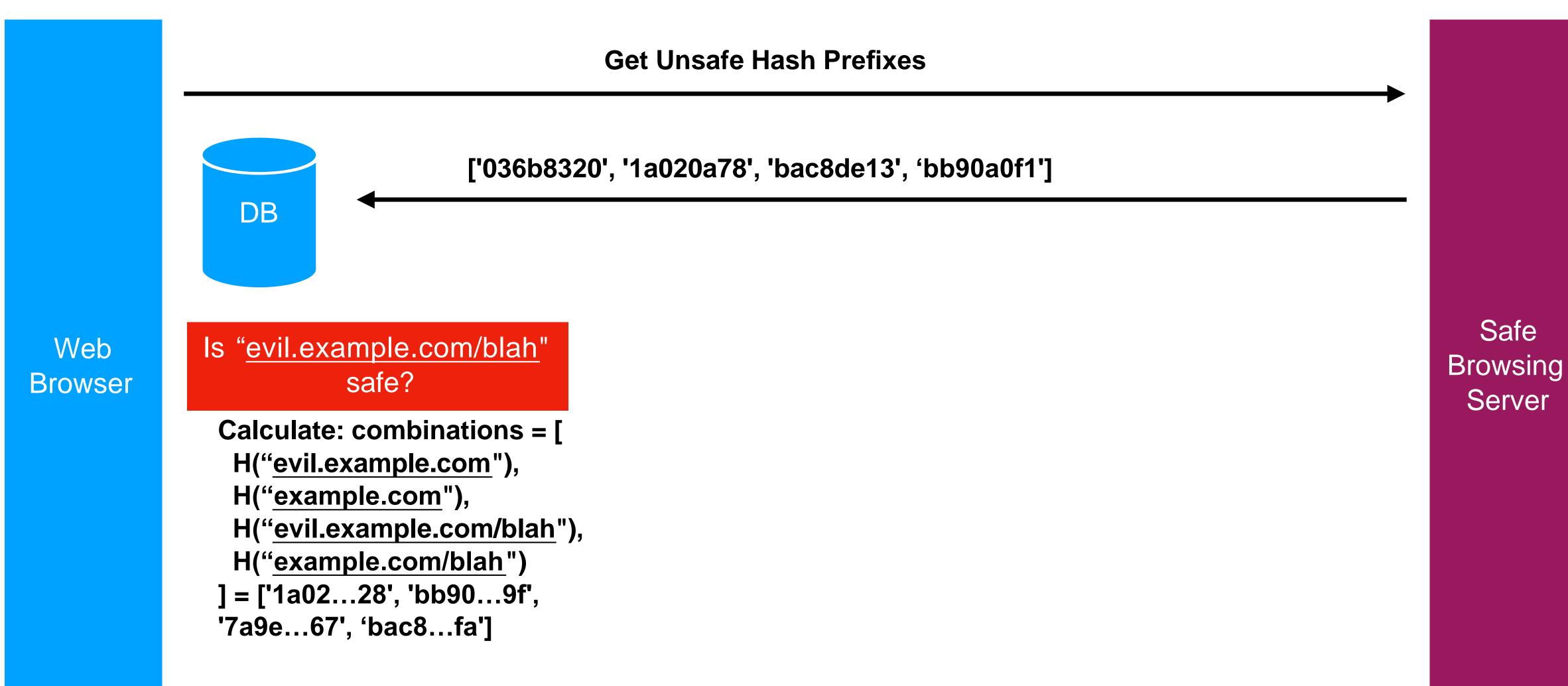
- Google maintains a list of known malware and phishing URLs — tries to protect user
- But, how do you let users look up dangerous sites without leaking all traffic to Google?



## Safe Browsing Approach

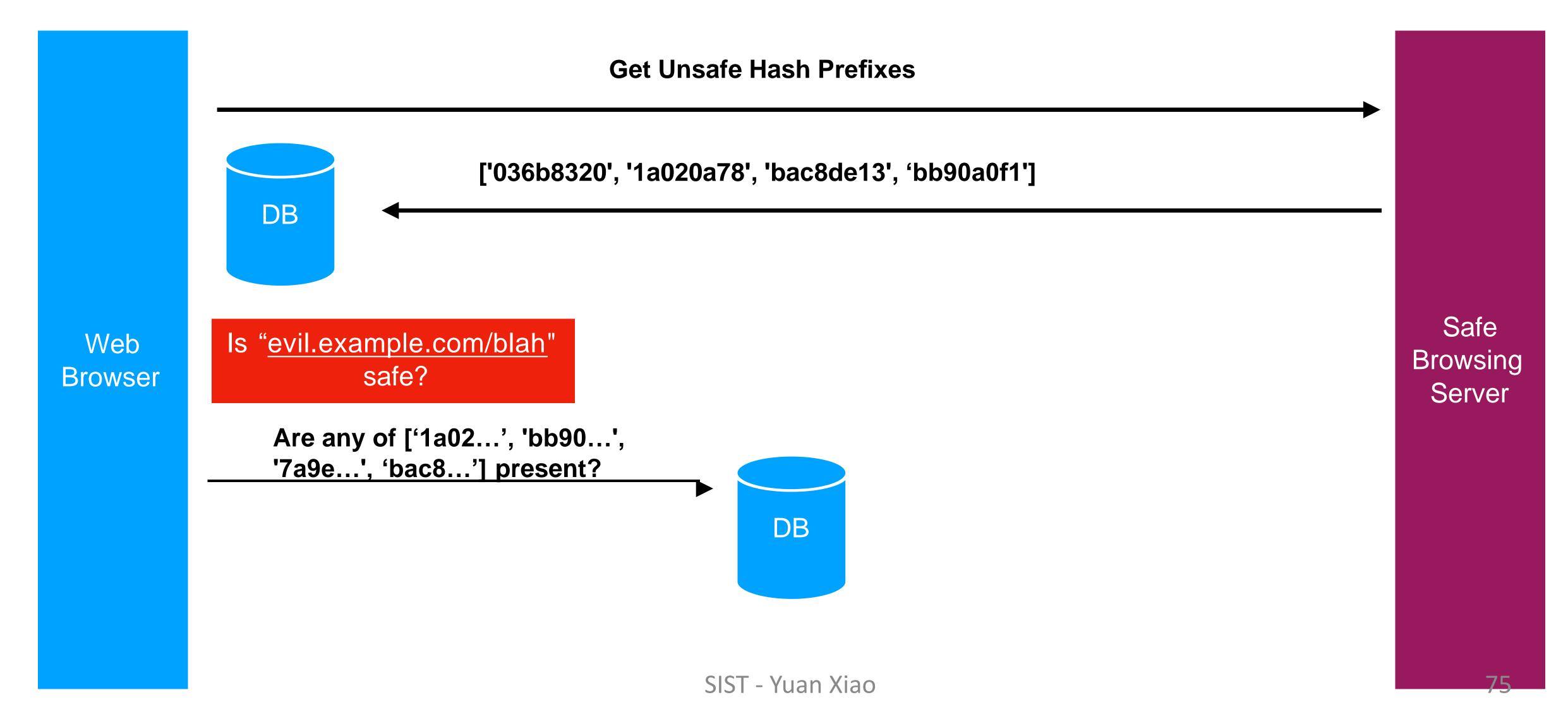


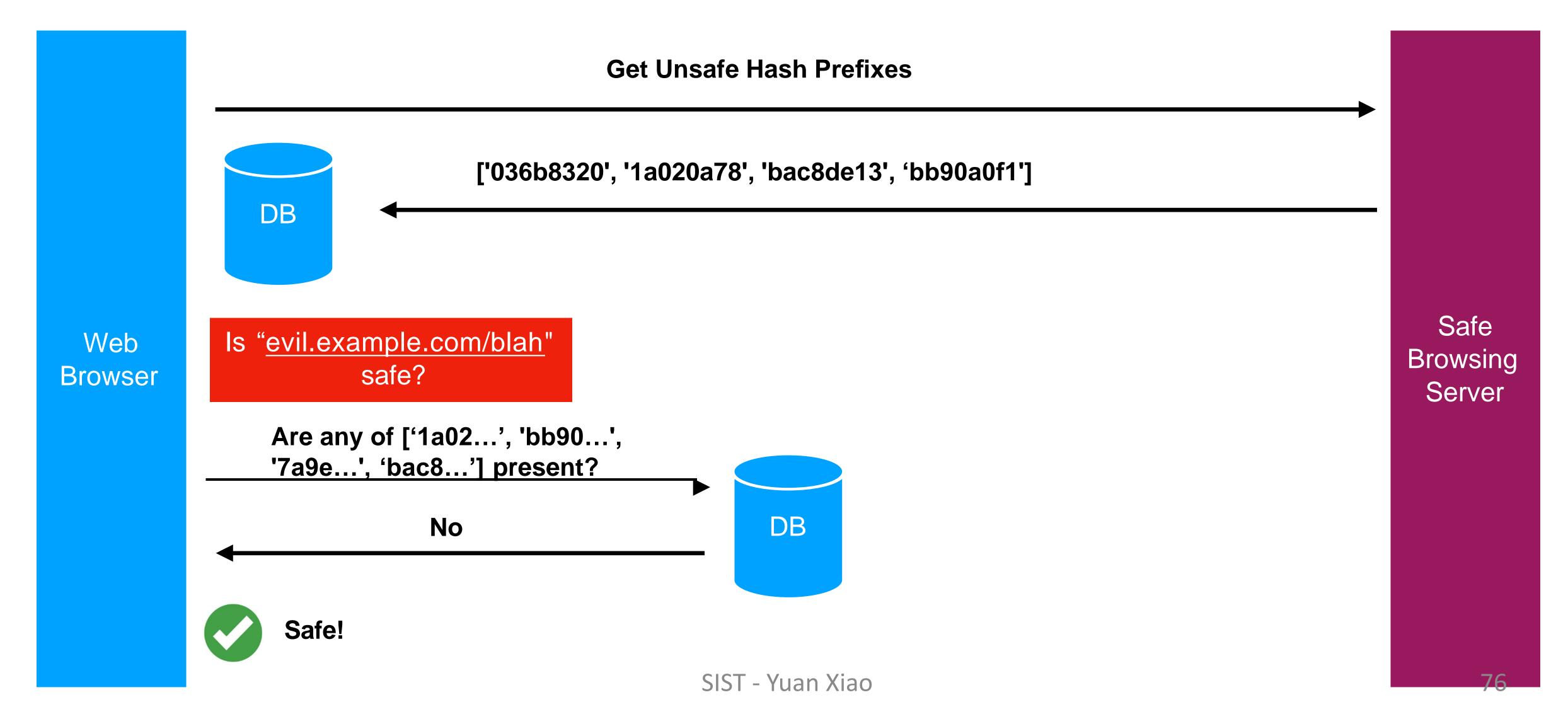




Safe

Server





Is "evil.example.com/blah" safe?

Are any of ['1a02...', 'bb90...', '7a9e...', 'bac8...'] present?

Yes ('1a02')

Unknown

Web Browser Safe Browsing Server

Web

Browser

Is "evil.example.com/blah" safe?

Are any of ['1a02...', 'bb90...', '7a9e...', 'bac8...'] present?

Yes ('1a02')

Unknown

What are the unsafe hashes with the prefix?

Safe Browsing Server

Is "evil.example.com/blah" safe? Are any of ['1a02...', 'bb90...', '7a9e...', 'bac8...'] present? DB Yes ('1a02') Web Unknown Browser What are the unsafe hashes with the prefix '1a02'? ['1a02....af', '1a02....23', ....] **Check for Exact Match** 

Safe Browsing Server



#### Beyond Passwords

### What do Passwords Protect Against?

- A strong password can protect against:
  - Password spray: Testing a weak password against large number of accounts
  - **Brute force:** Testing multiple passwords from dictionary or other source against a single account
- But do not protect against:
  - Credential stuffing: Replaying passwords from a breach
  - Phishing: Man-in-the-middle, credential interception
  - Keystroke logging: Malware, sniffing
  - Extortion: Blackmail, insider threat





Check if your email address is in a data breach

email address

pwned?

Using Have I Been Pwned is subject to the terms of use

771

13,080,233,673

115,769

228,884,627

pwned websites

pwned accounts

pastes

paste accounts

Largest breaches

Recently added breaches



772,904,991 Collection #1 accounts

763,117,241 Verifications.io accounts

#### Multi-Factor Authentication

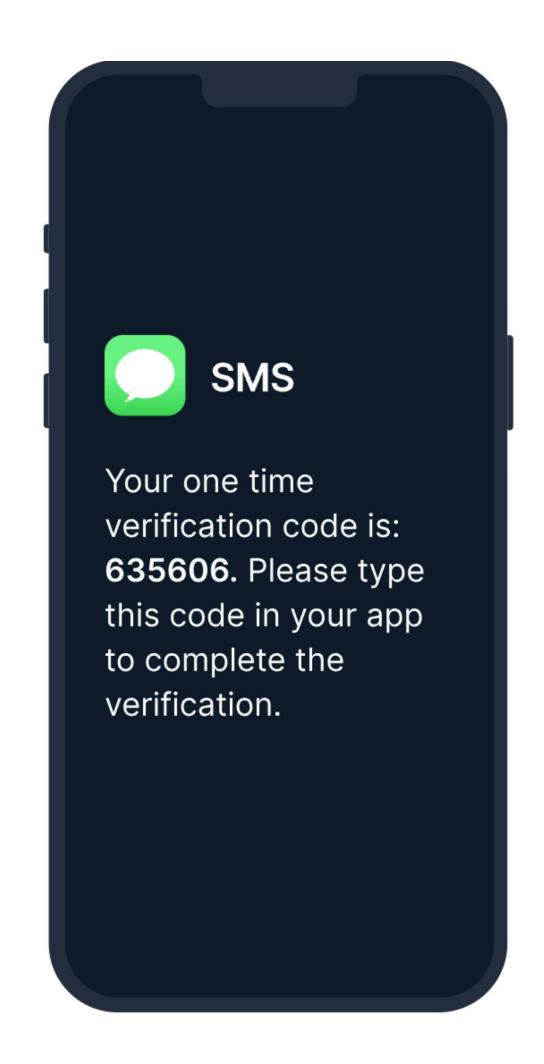
- Microsoft: "Based on our studies, your account is more than 99.9% less likely to be compromised if you use MFA"
- How are accounts compromised in practice?
  - Credential Stuffing attackers try to log in using purchased lists of usernames and passwords
  - Phishing users are deceived into entering their password



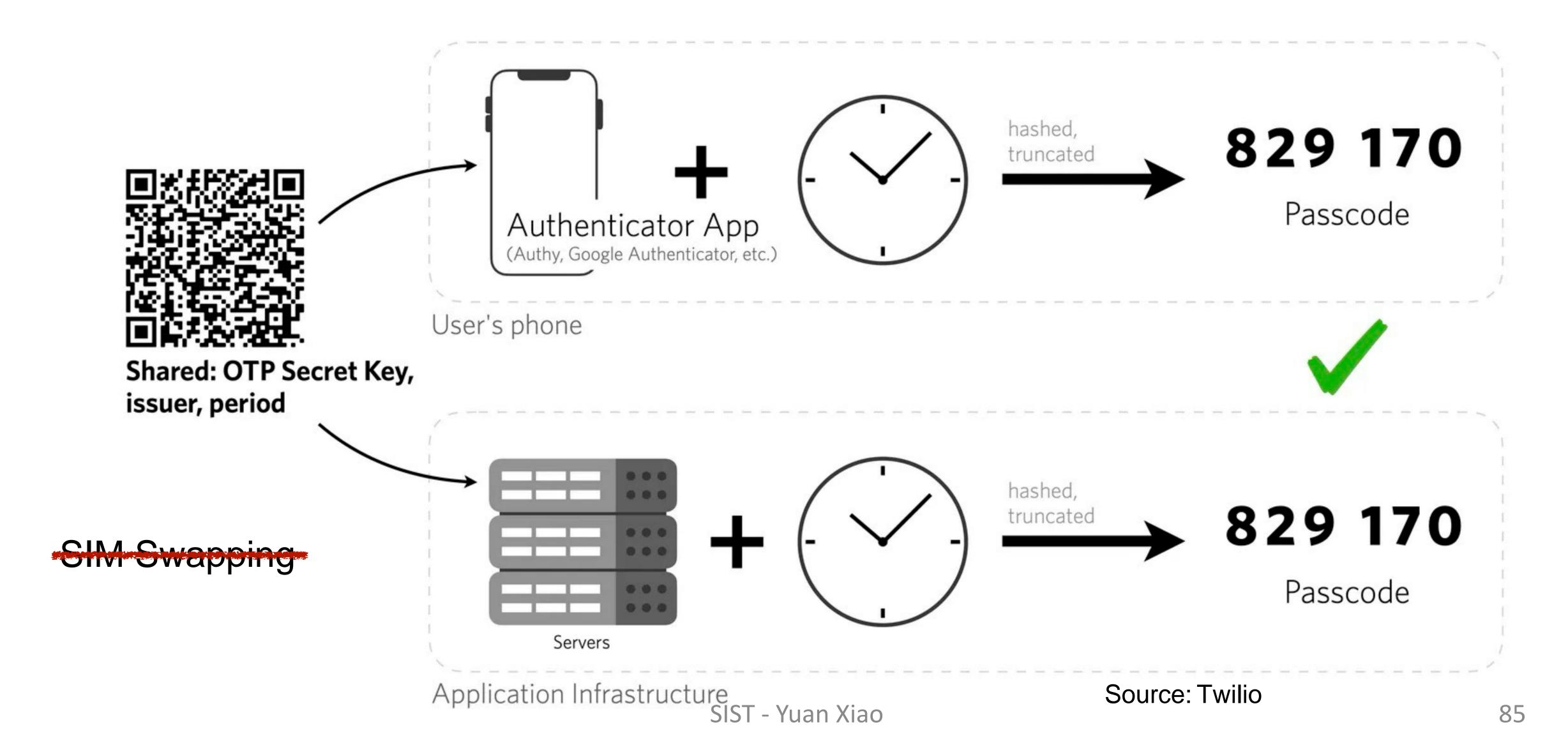
Microsoft	
Sign in	
jcougar@cougarnet.uh.edu	
No account? Create one!	
Can't access your account?	
Sign-in options	
	Next

#### SNS-Based Two Factor

- Prevents attackers from logging in using stolen credential by sending One Time Code (OTC) to user
- Now considered obsolete. Fails against:
  - Phishing sites
  - SIM Swapping
  - Social Engineering Attacks

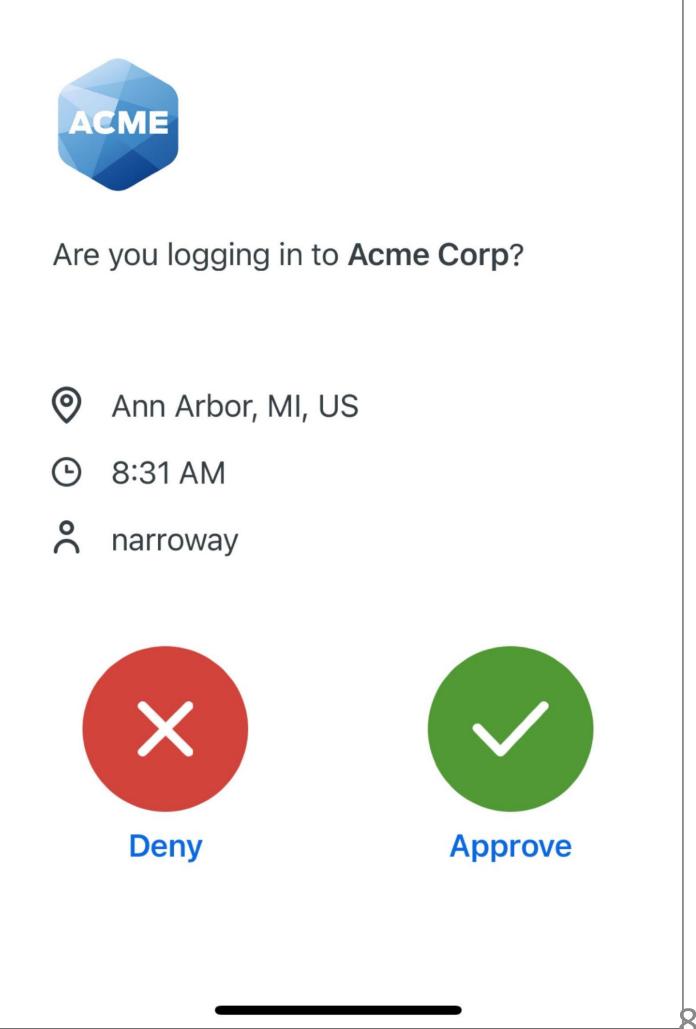


#### Time-based One-Time Passwords (TOTP)



#### Duo Push Notifications

- Duo (or similar) Push Notifications prevent doesn't show a code — can't be stolen by an attacker
- Doesn't provide full-proof defense against "push phishing":
  - User clicking Approve out of habit
  - Real-Time Phishing Site attacks



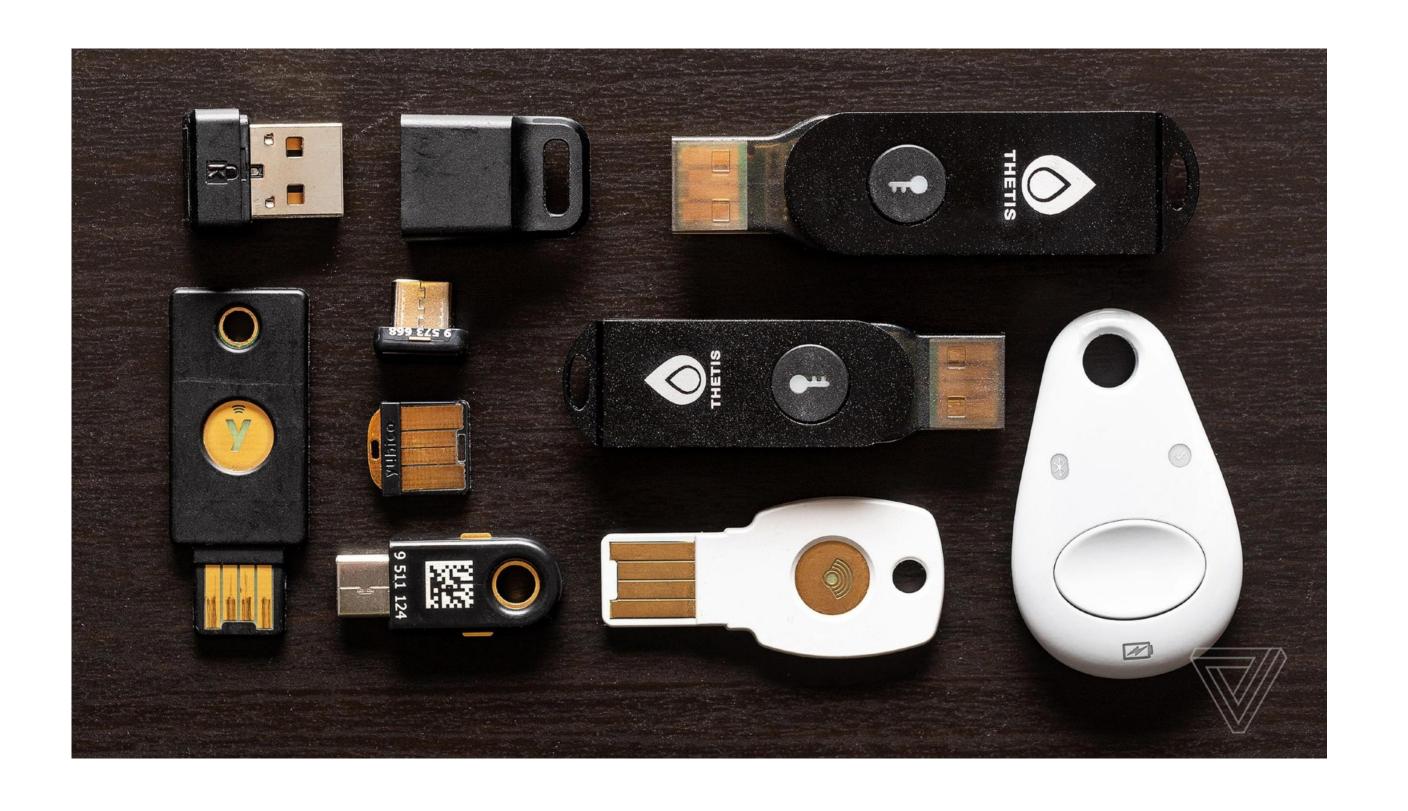
### How to provide foolproof 2FA?

- Most secure solutions rely on cryptographic operation that's tied to the website being visited by the user
- We have fool-proof solutions today: physical security tokens and Passkeys

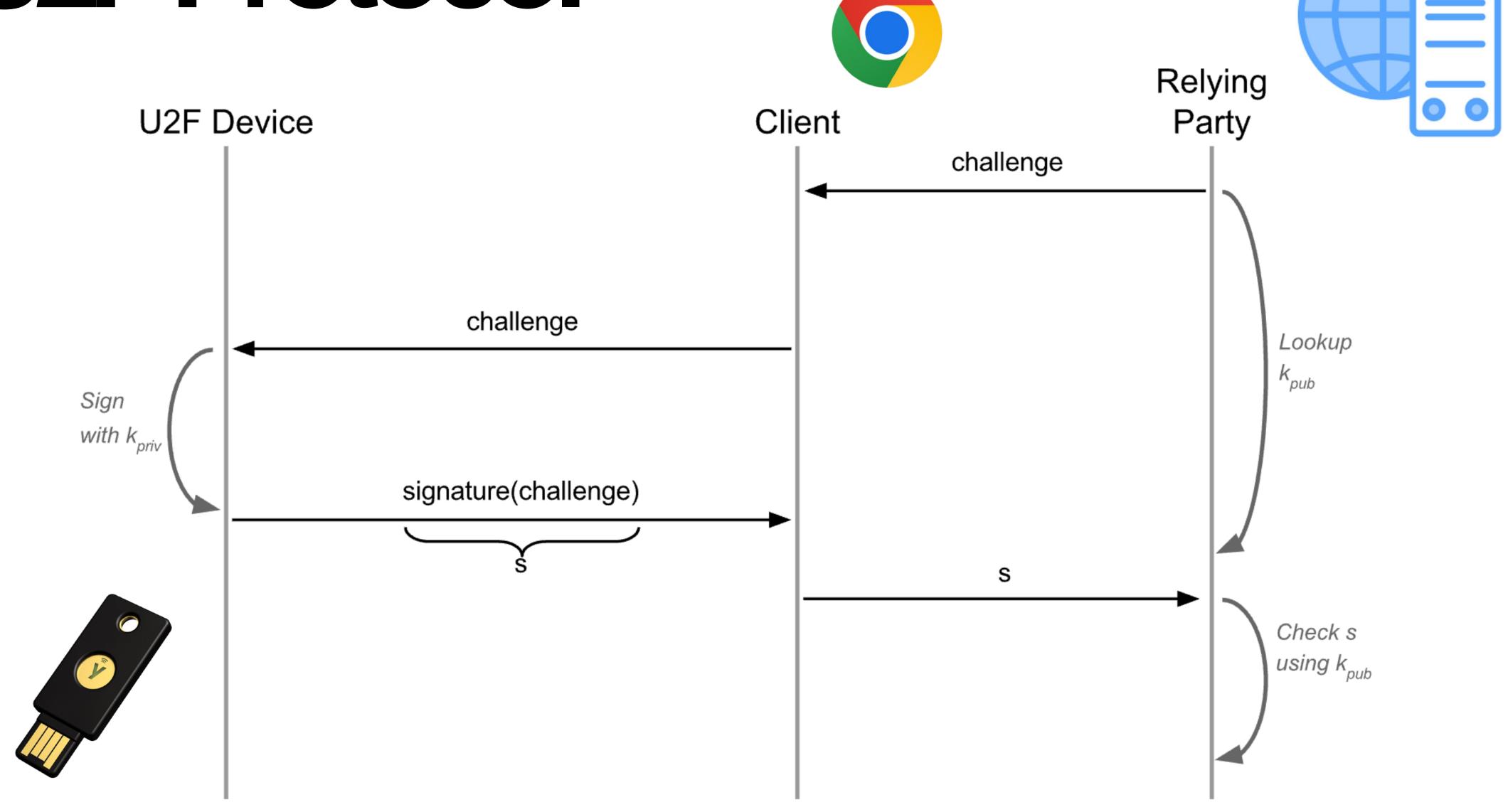


### Physical Tokens

- Each token has a public and private key pair
- Private key cannot be extracted from the device
- Pushing button signs a challenge presented to the device

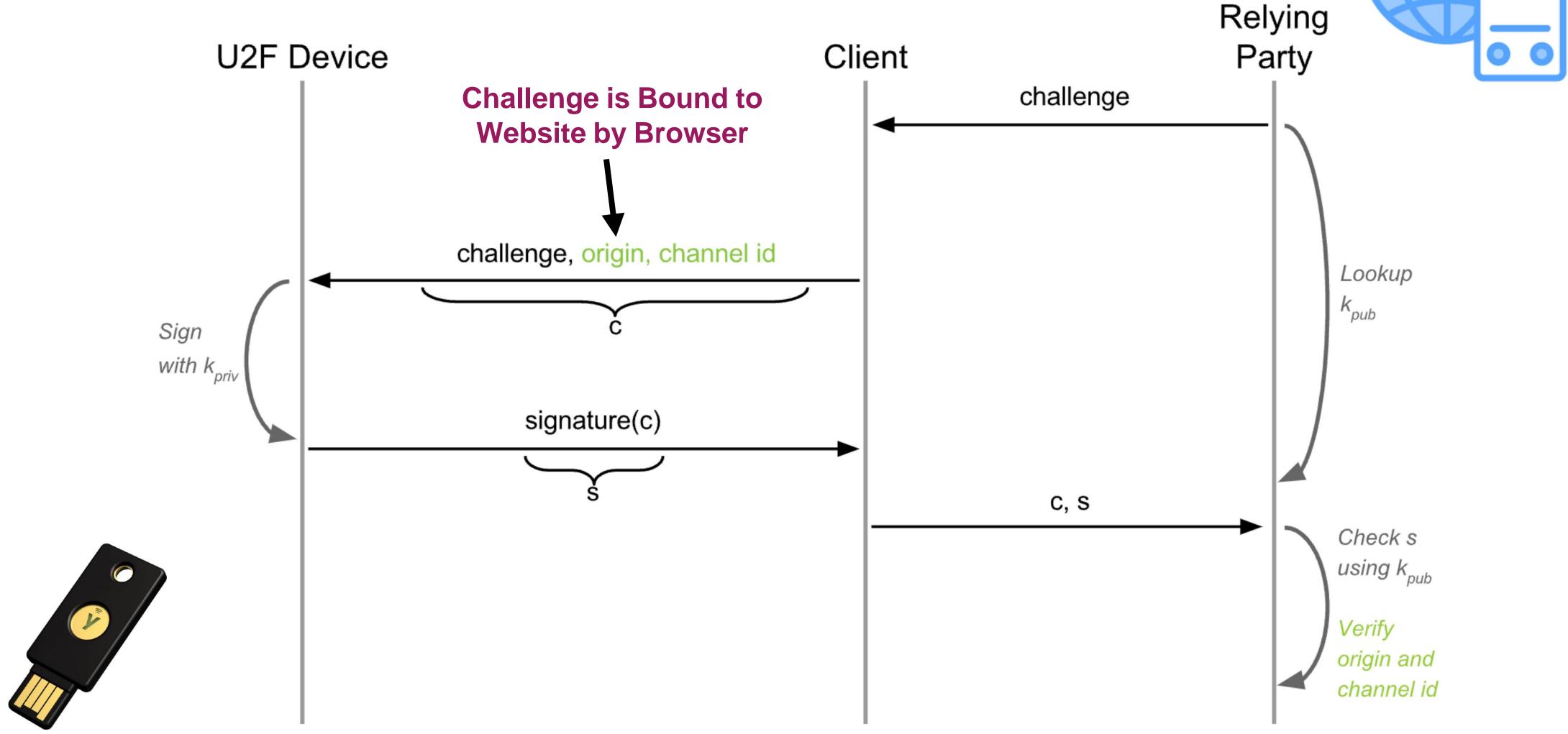


### U2F Protoco



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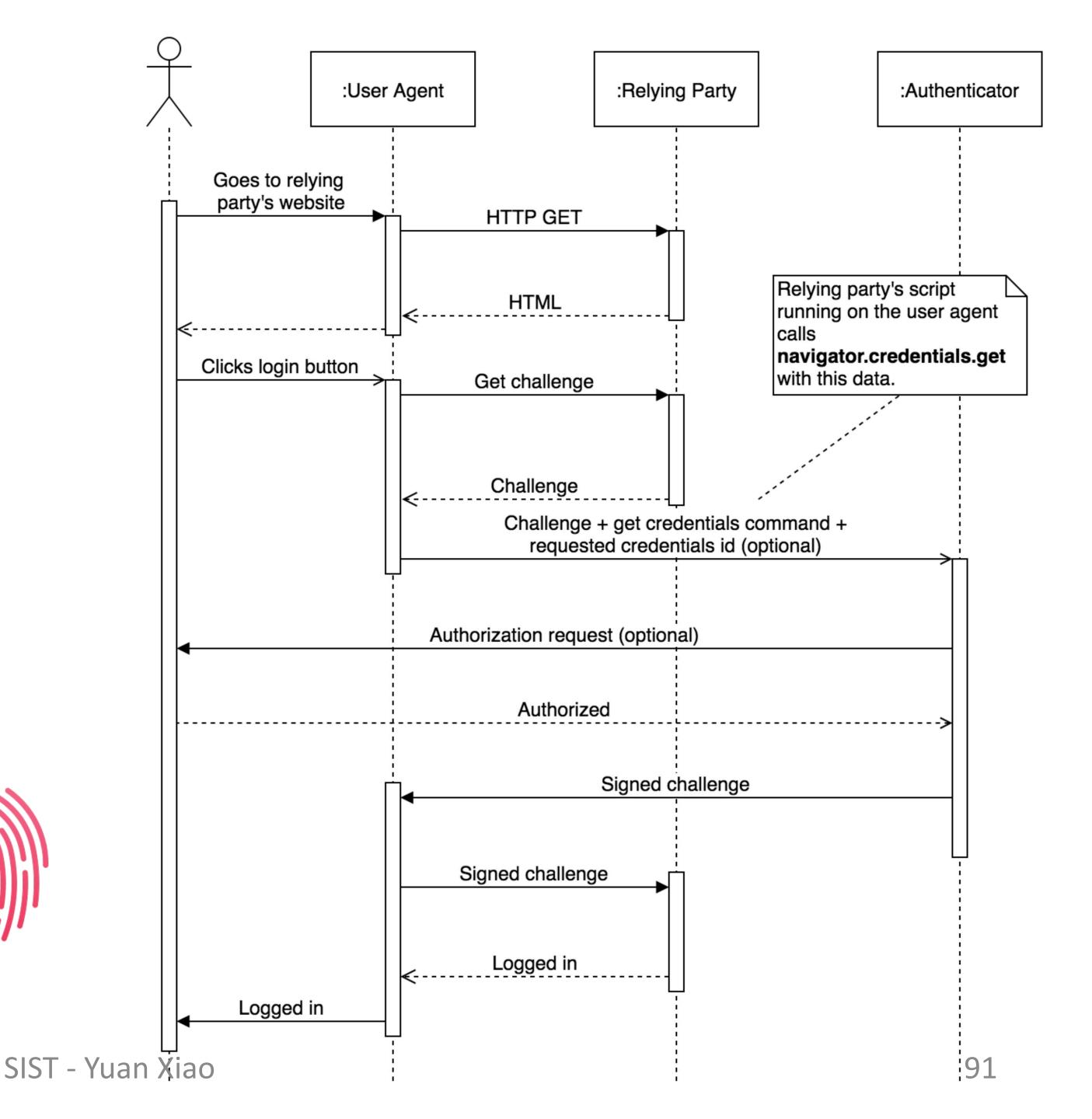




#### FDO2/VebAuthN

- U2F Protocol only allowed hardware tokens to be used as a second factor
- FIDO2 allows them to be used as primary authentication mechanism
- Allows authenticators beyond hardware token (e.g., TouchID)





# Pass Keys

- Technical Name: "Multi-Device FIDO Credentials"
- Public/Private key pair that is synchronized across devices (e.g., by Google or Apple) and can be used through WebAuthN API

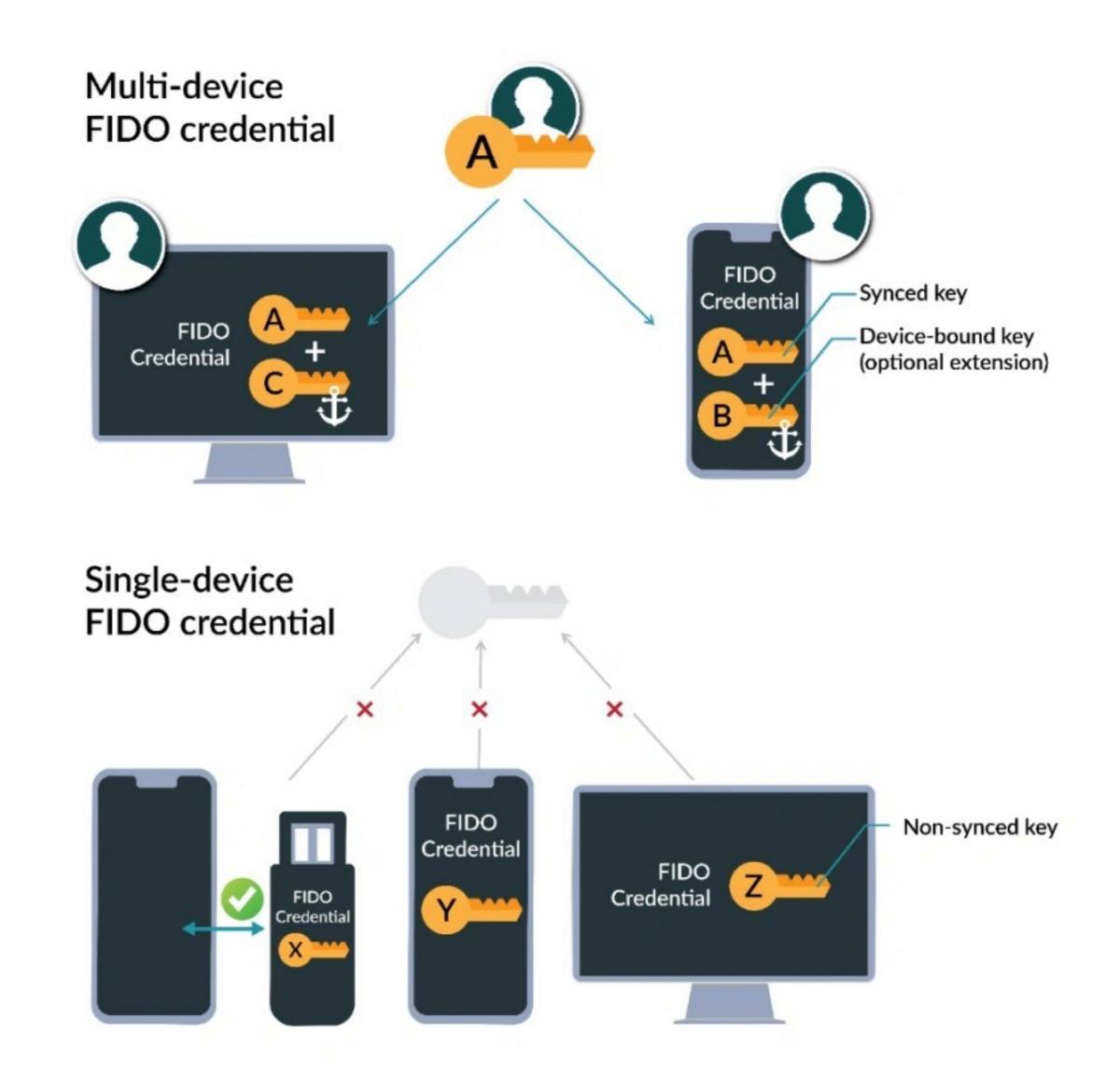


Figure 1: Multi-device vs. single-device credentials



#### Building a Secure Web Application

### Many Steps Involved

**Best Advice:** Use a modern web framework — many security precautions are built in today — but don't assume!

**Protect Against CSRF:** Never depend on cookies to signal user intent! Use CORS Pre-Flight or CSRF Tokens.

Set cookies as **sameSite** and **secure**.

Protect Against XSS: Set a Content Security Policy and do not use any inline scripts. Use httpOnly cookies.

Protect Against SQL Injection: Use Parameterized SQL or Object Relational Mapper (ORM)

### Many More Steps Involved

Protect Against Data Breach: Use modern hashing algorithm like BCRYPT and salt passwords

Protect Against Clickjacking: Set Content Security Policy that prevents you from being shown in an IFRAME

**Protect Against Malicious Third Parties:** Use Iframes, CSP, and HTML5 Sandboxes

Protect Against Compromised Third Parties: Use Sub-Resource Integrity Headers

Protect Against Credential Compromise and Phishing: Use U2F