



**TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DRESDEN**

Department of Computer Science Institute of System Architecture, Operating Systems Group

PROBLEMS IN PRACTICE: THE WEB

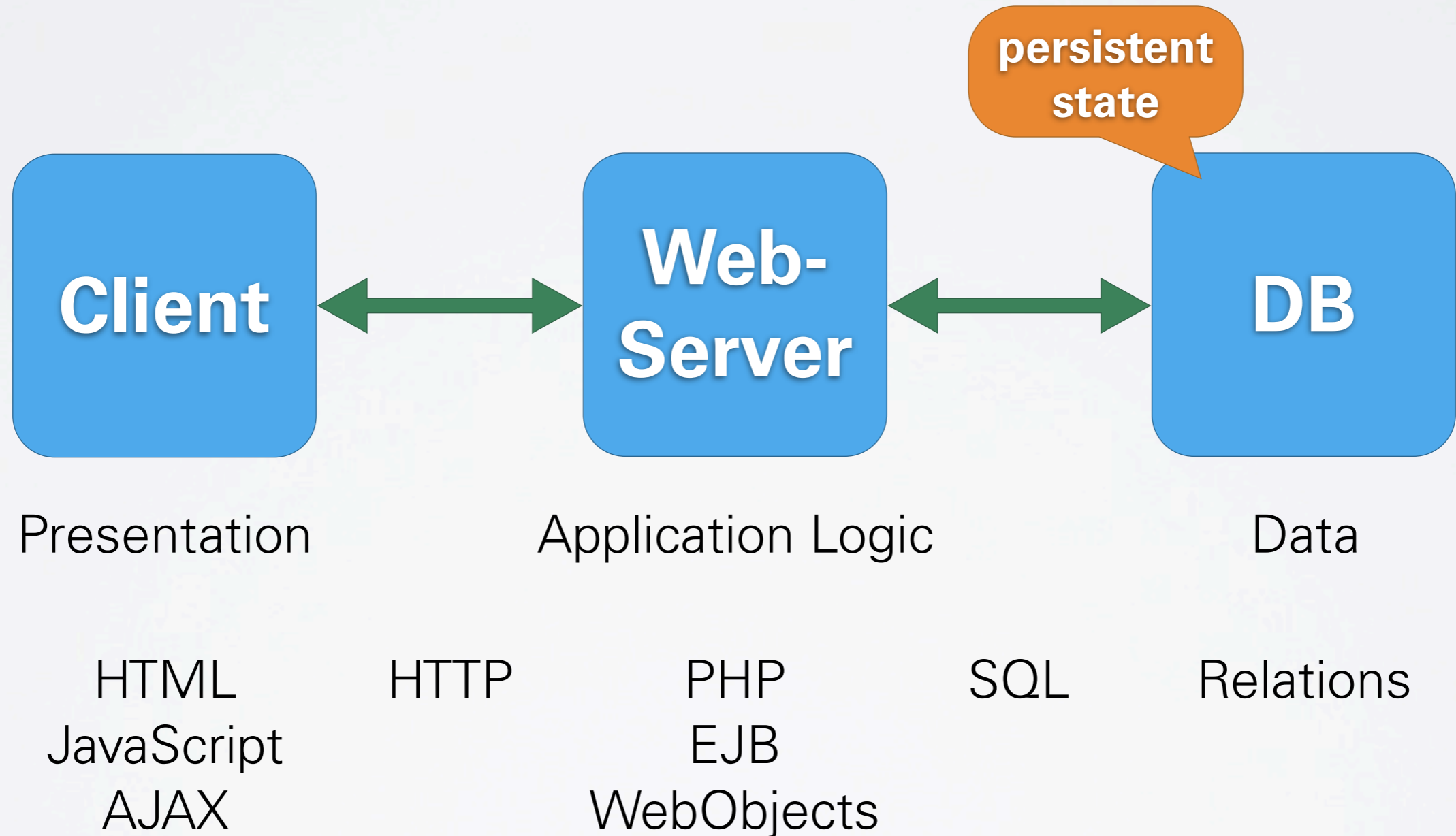
MICHAEL ROITZSCH

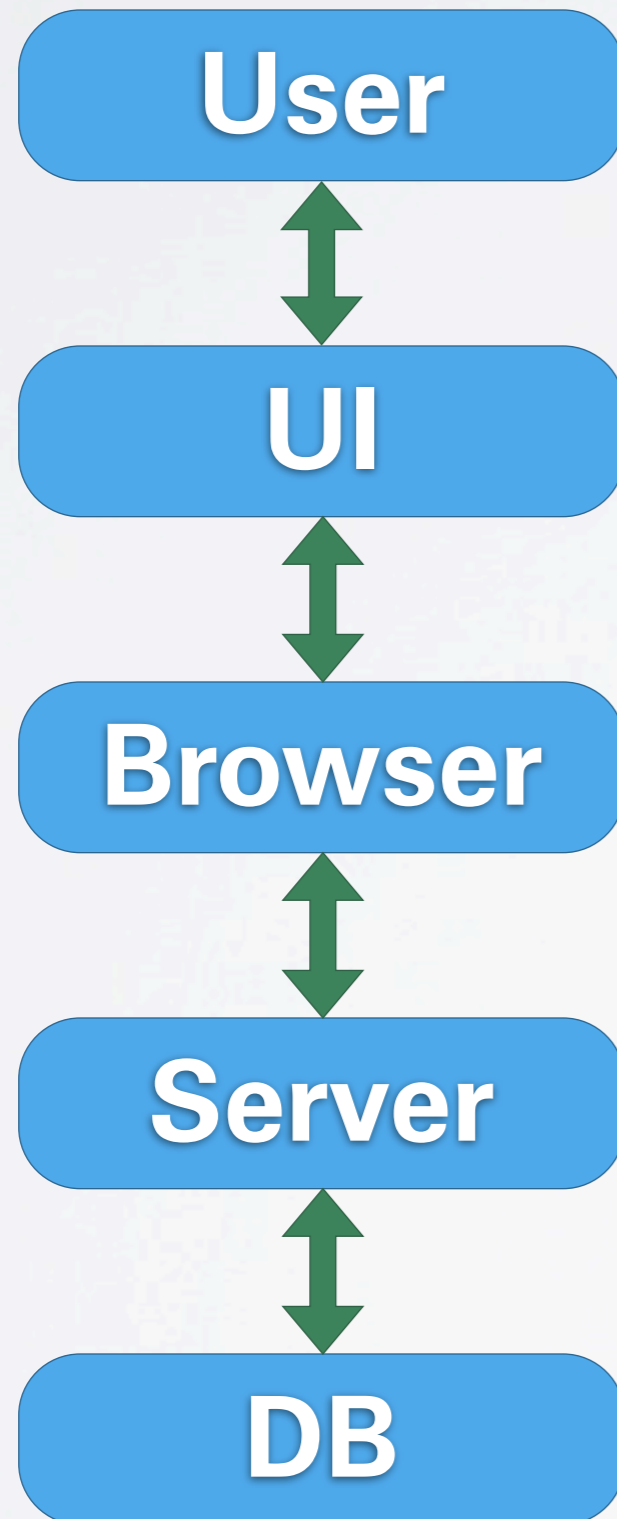


THE WEB AS A DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM

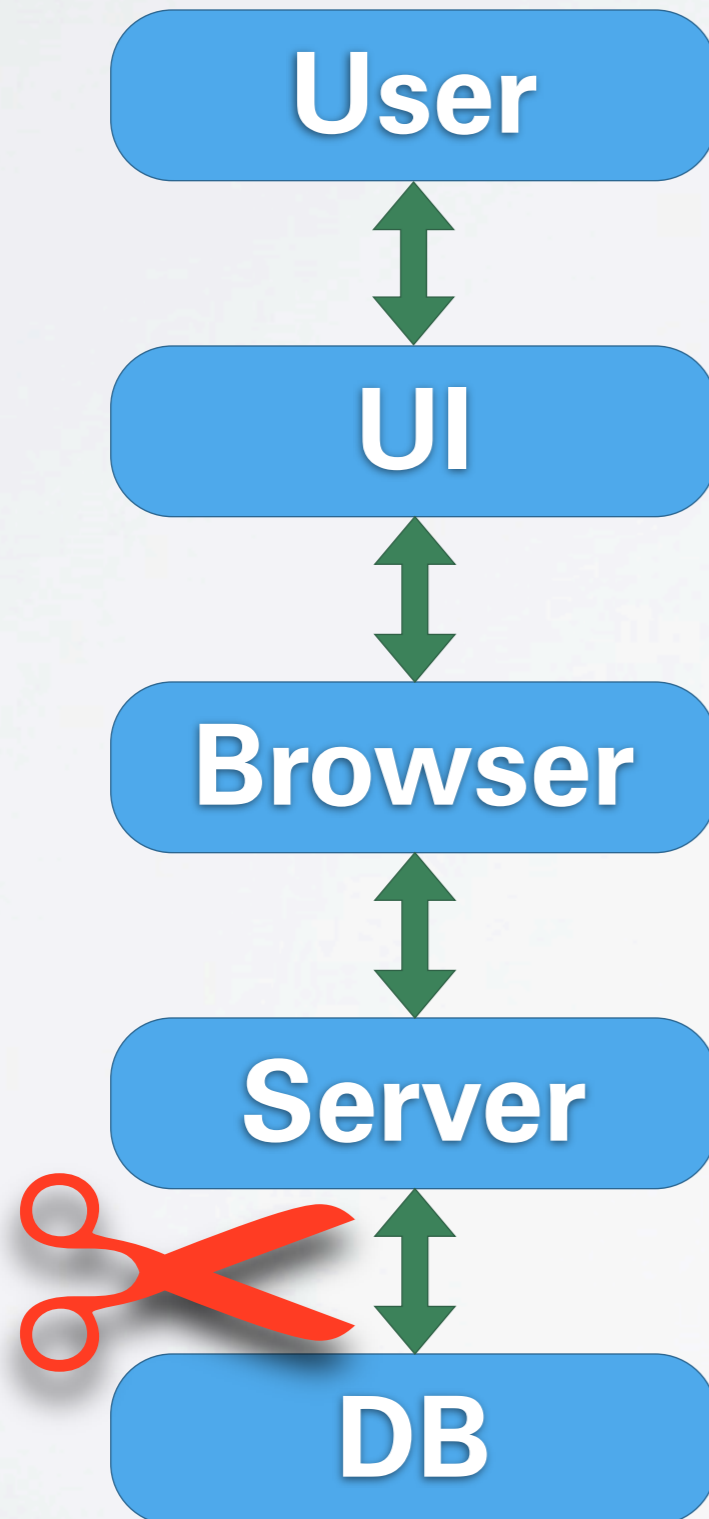


WEB HACKING SESSION





- user accesses a sensitive service
- attacker tries to disturb
- various complex layers
- independently developed technologies are being combined
- what you see may not be what you get...



- **goal:** manipulate state stored in the backend DB
- not directly accessible (hopefully)
- improper input checking in frontend server required
- nice: inconsistency is persistent

```
$password = $_POST['password'];
```

```
$id = $_POST['id'];
```

```
$sql = "UPDATE Accounts SET  
PASSWORD = '$password' WHERE  
account_id = $id";
```

Now imagine: `password=' ; --`

SQL injection

BOBBY TABLES



Comic by Randall Munroe, xkcd.com



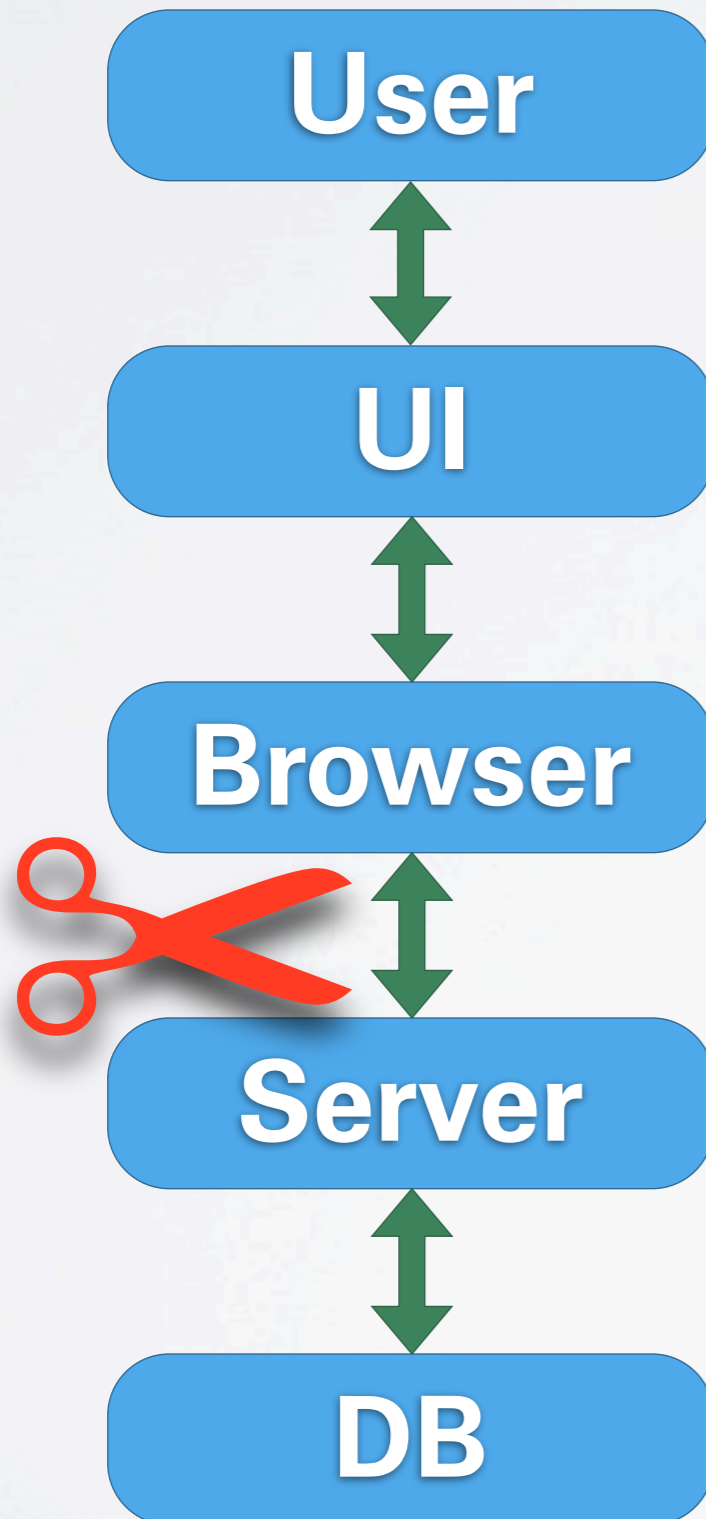
LICENSE PLATE



- exploit other flaws in the application logic
- insufficient boundaries between users
 - Hotmail hole exposes mails of other users
- security by obscurity
 - URL guessing can expose hidden resources
- logic bombs
 - Mikeyy worm on Twitter used code injection via custom CSS to replicate



always sanitize input



- **goal:** manipulate content delivered to the browser
- infrastructure attacks like DNS cache poisoning
- solution for this: make sure you use SSL
- ... and check CRLs
- improper input checking can still bite you

- `http://example.com/?query=query string`
- generates website containing:
`<p>You are looking for: query string</p>`
- so how about that:
`http://example.com/?query=HTML code`
- remember that?
`http://www.wolfgang-schaeuble.de/?
search=</div>...`



Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble MdB
Bundesminister des Innern
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24.05.2008

Bundesinnenminister tritt zurück

wäre eine Meldung, die sicher viele gerne lesen würden. Allerdings handelt es sich nur um eine Cross-Site-Scripting-Schwachstelle im der Webseite des Politikers, der gerne die Online-Durchsuchung einführen möchte. Scherzbolde können dadurch beliebige Meldungen unter der Domäne wolfgang-schaeuble.de erstellen.

Der Fehler liegt in der Suchfunktion des Internetauftritts, die HTML- und Skriptcode in Anfragen nicht ausfiltert. Grüße an dmk.

Suchen...

Position

Verfassungsschutzbericht →

BKA-Gesetz →

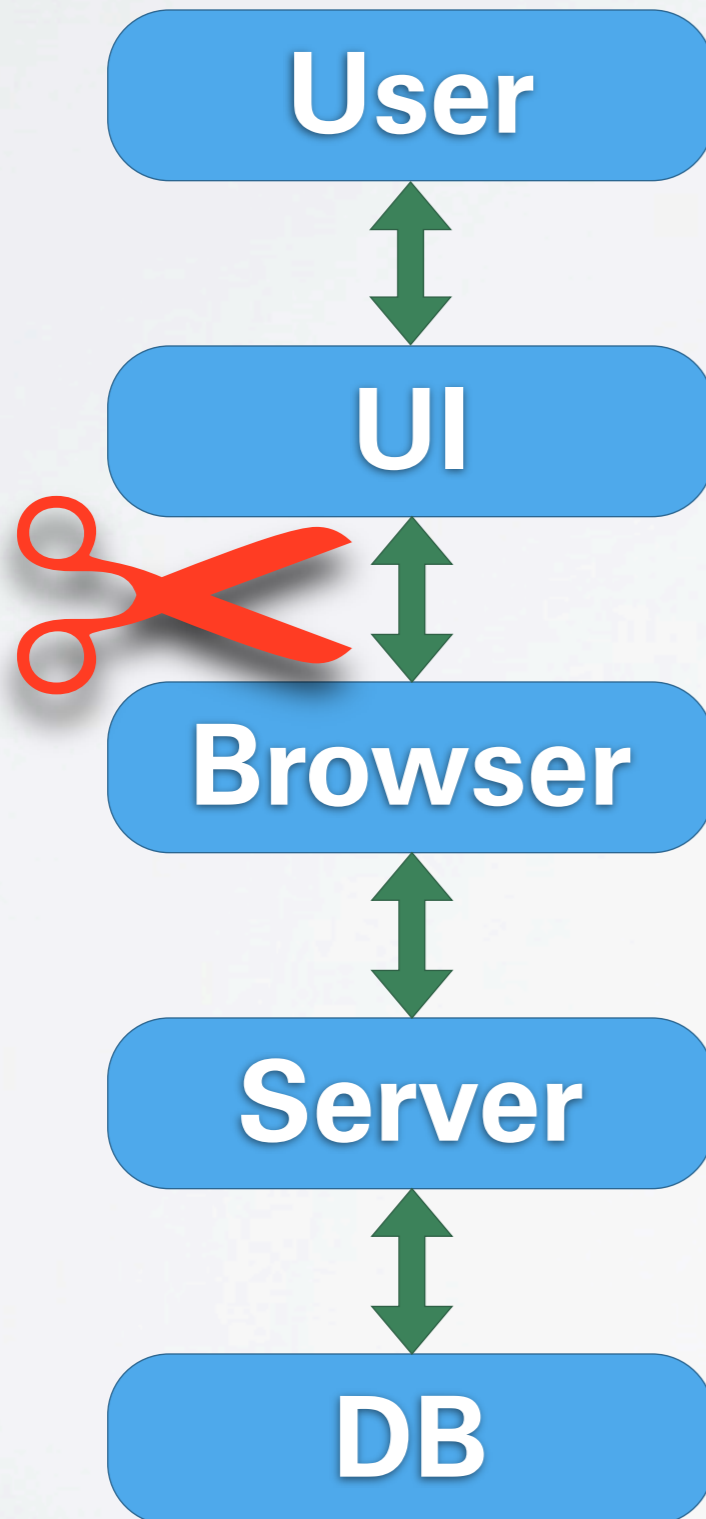
Fertig

- sometimes this type of **HTML injection** is improperly called **cross-site scripting**
- injection (both HTML and SQL) can **become** cross-site scripting (XSS) attacks
- just embed `<script>` tags and send code
- this code will run with the privileges of the embedding site (think IE zones)
- the script can then operate the site for you

- Can you steal site credentials with this?
- imagine a bank website allowing injection
- What do we have?
 - user needs to click attacker-provided link
 - you could display a fake login form
 - even with some JavaScript
 - the browser would indicate proper SSL
- How do you get the password?

- JavaScript can access password fields
- you cannot use AJAX to get the password
- **same origin policy**
 - JavaScript may only connect back to the originating server (with some tolerance)
- can be defeated with `` tags
 - encode password in URL to ping your server
- JavaScript can also read cookies...

- fix web application
 - well...
- disallow cross-site image loading?
 - lots of sites use this
- no JavaScript access to password field?
 - AJAX logins need this



- **goal:** trick the browser to not show what's actually happening
- or: how to pull strings behind the user's back
- or: can one website control another one?
- no mischief with the server communication

- user visits a regular website you control
- Can you obtain credentials of a different site?
- some preconditions
 - user is logged in to the target site in another browser tab
 - the target site identifies the user session with a cookie
- no cross-site cookie leakage in browser

- same origin policy prevents AJAX to target
- again, `` is your friend
- one website can send arbitrary requests to another, unrelated site
- **cross site request forgery**
- a special case of the **confused deputy problem**
- requests are blindly operating the target

- send requests and GET parameters
 - click buttons in the UI of the target site
 - operate search fields and other text input
- basic or digest authentication? cookies?
 - browser automatically sends credential
 - **session riding**
- POST requests?
 - manufacture a `<form>` instead of ``

- study in late 2008: high-profile bank websites vulnerable
- DSL-Routers
 - disable firewall
 - reset wifi protection
 - enable UPnP
- browser-based port scanning
 - this is behind the corporate firewall

- disable cross-site POST requests
 - GET requests should by definition never change persistent state
 - there is a Firefox plugin for that
- never authenticate a change of persistent state by cookie only
- pass an additional credential
 - session ID in URL, edit tokens

Log in

Don't have an account? [Create an account.](#)

You must have cookies enabled to log in to OSWiki.

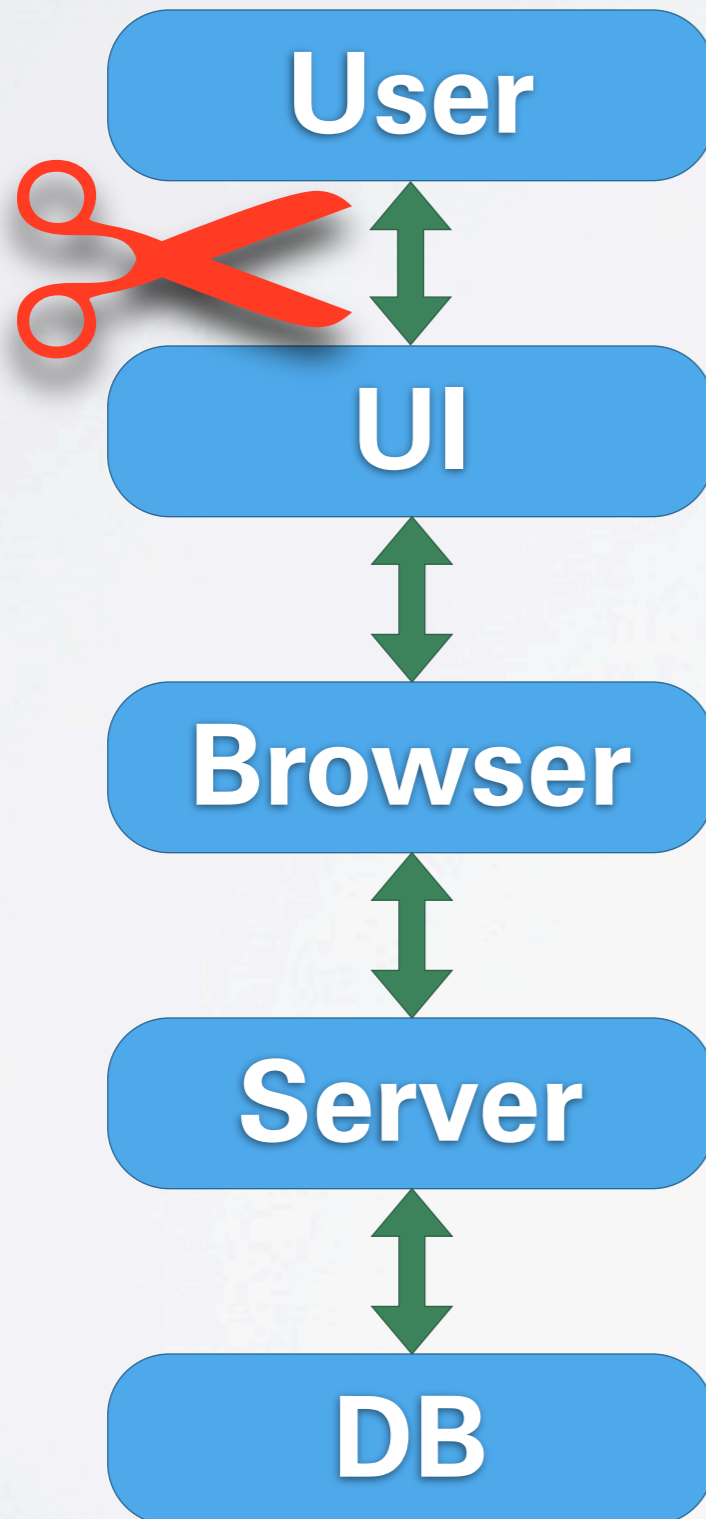
Username:

Password:

Remember my login on this computer

Log in

E-mail new password



- **goal:** mislead the user to not seeing what's actually happening
- nothing going on behind your back
- the internal state of the browser is properly displayed
- but you don't notice...

www . paypa¹ . com

CYRILLIC SMALL
LETTER A (U+0430)

LATIN SMALL LETTER A
(U+0061)

www . paypa¹ . com

homograph attack

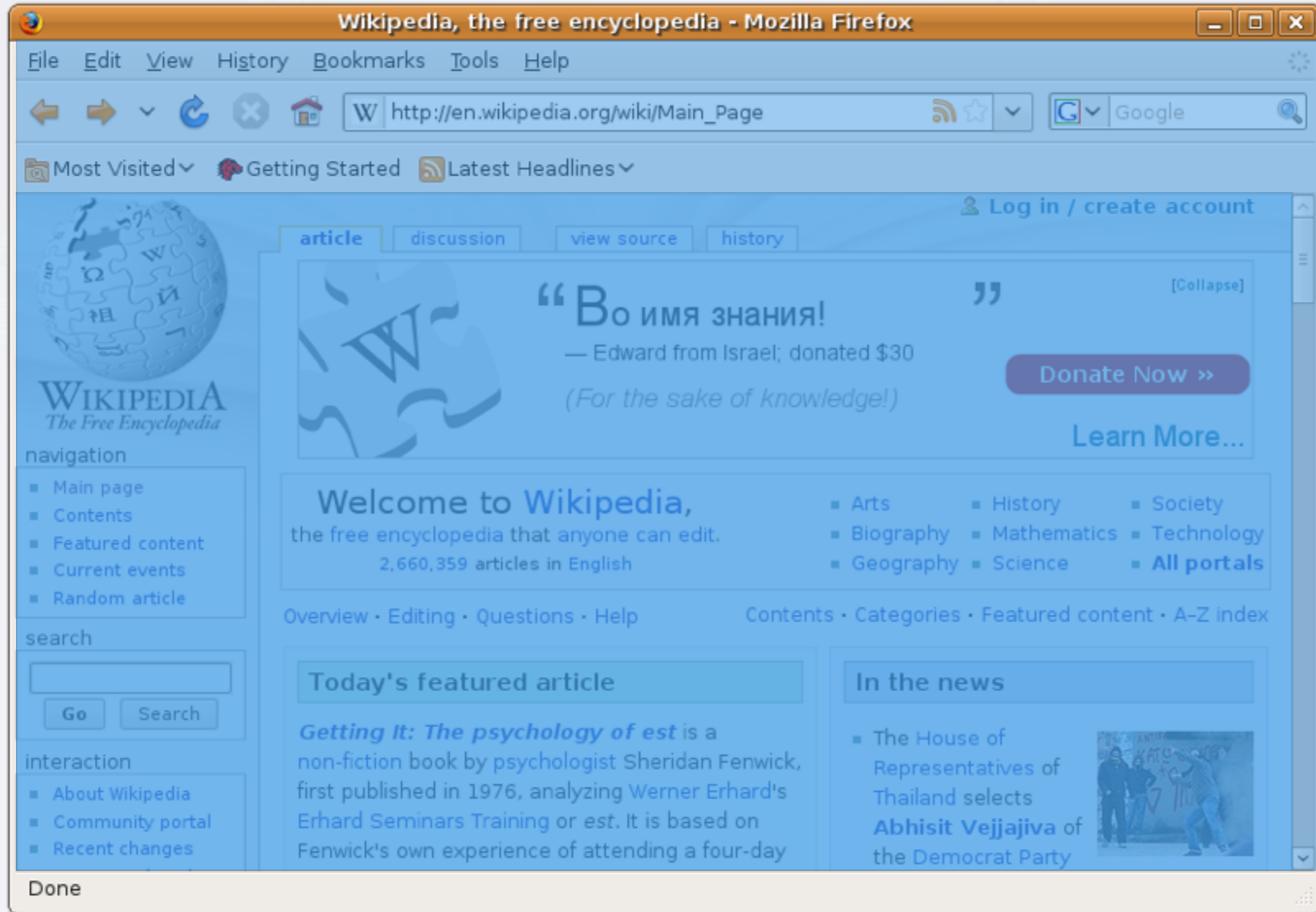
FRACTION SLASH
(U+2044)

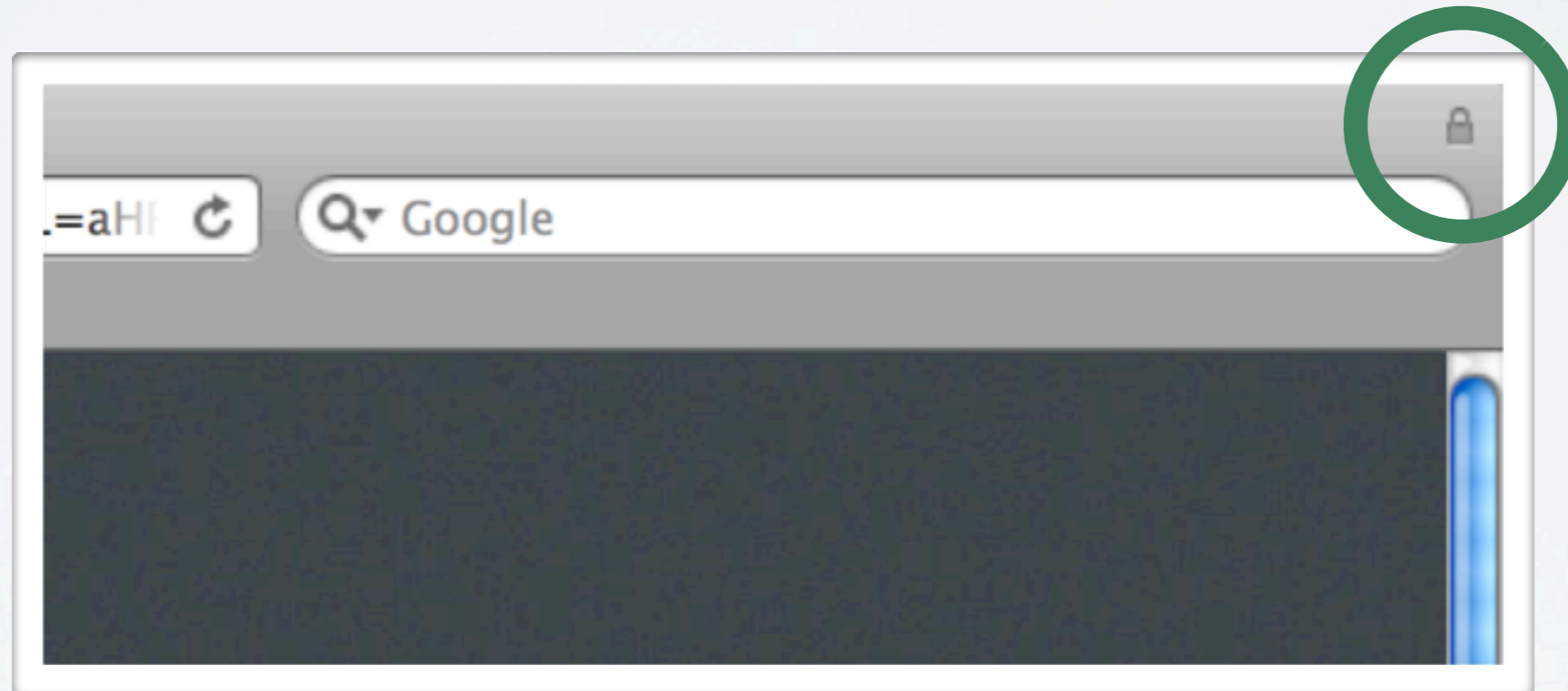
https://www.bank.com/account/login.ab.cd


www.bank.xn--comaccountlogin-uh0iha.ab.cd

https://www.bank.com/account/login.ab.cd

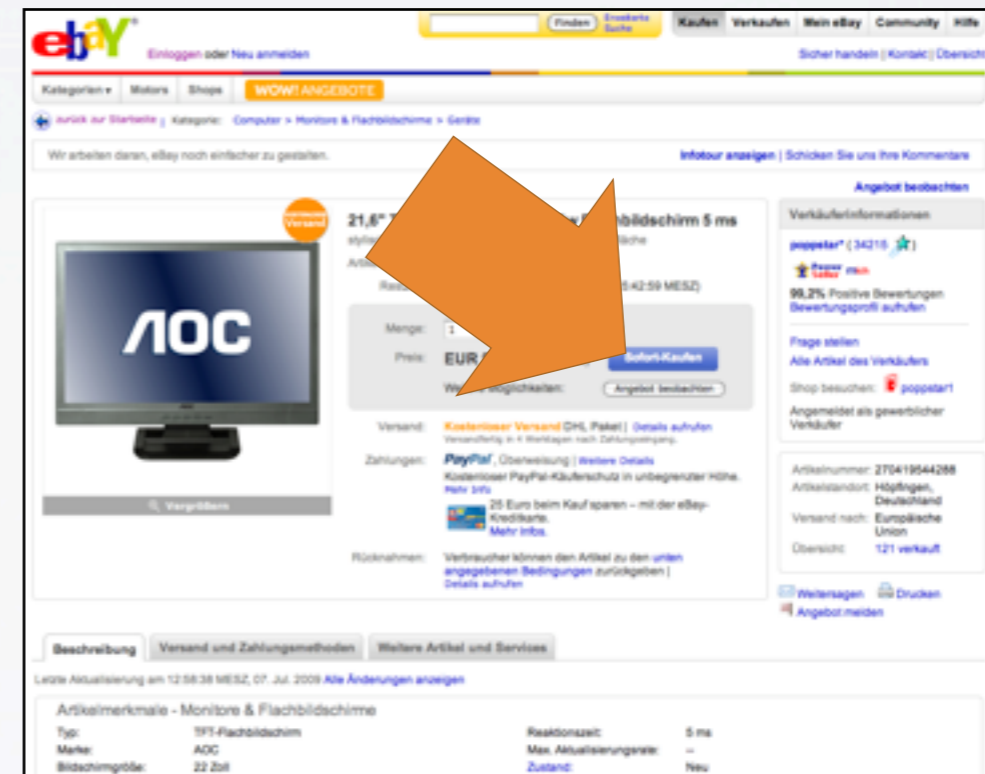
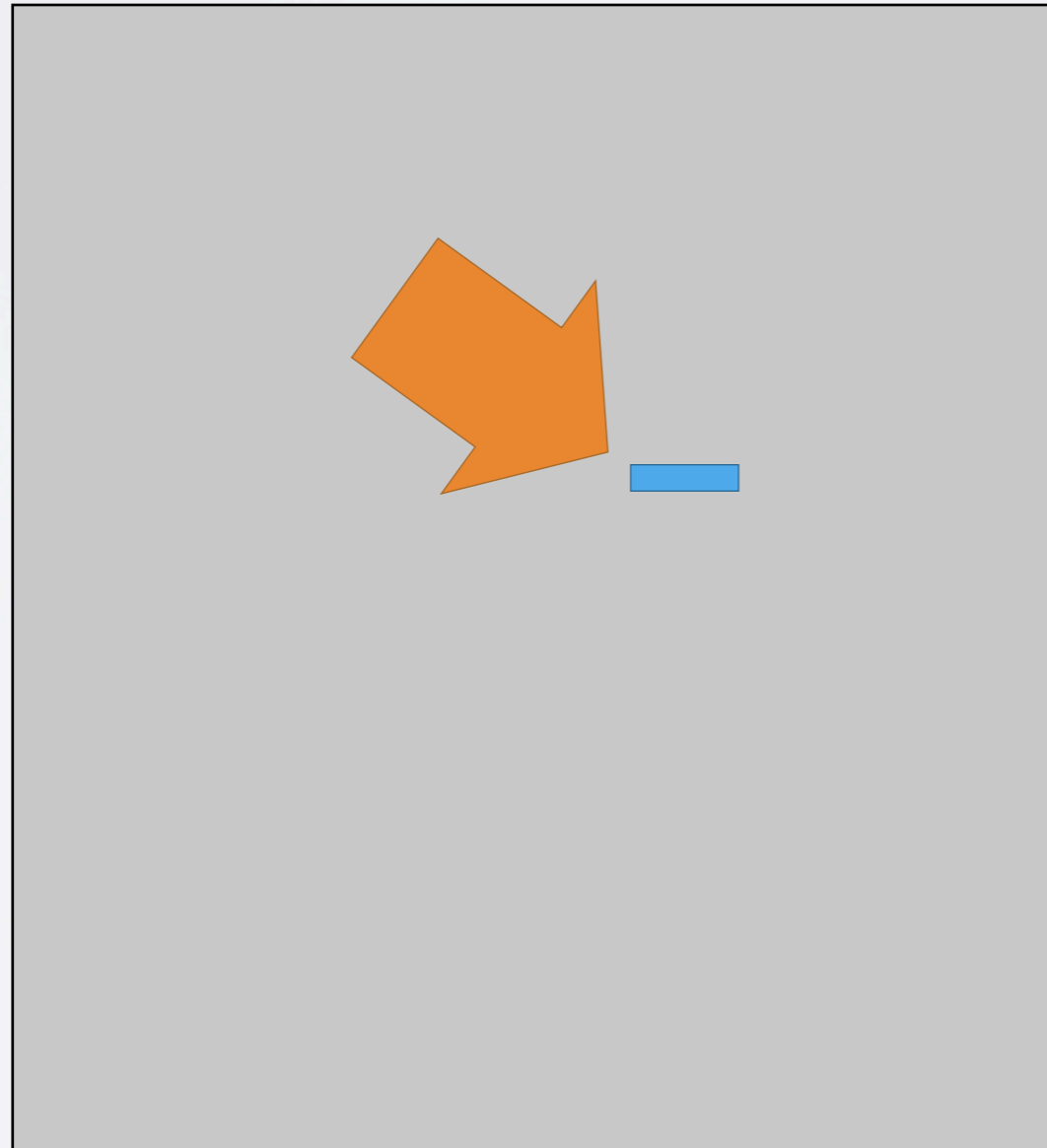
www.bank.com







The screenshot shows the PayPal website interface. At the top left is the PayPal logo. Below it is a navigation bar with links for 'Startseite', 'Privatkunden', 'Geschäftskunden', and 'Shopping-Portal'. On the left side, there is a 'Konto-Login' section with a green circle around the login icon. It includes input fields for 'E-Mail-Adresse' and 'PayPal-Passwort', an 'Einloggen' button, and links for 'E-Mail-Adresse oder Passwort vergessen?' and 'Neu bei PayPal? Neu anmelden'. To the right is a large blue banner titled 'Das Prinzip PayPal. Online zahlen – einfach und sicher.' featuring an image of a metal padlock with a shopping cart icon on top. Below the banner are logos for PayPal, giro pay, VISA, and MasterCard. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with various links: 'Über uns', 'Impressum', 'Kontotypen', 'Gebühren', 'Datenschutz', 'Sicherheit', 'Kontakt', 'AGB', 'Jobs', and 'Sammelzahlung'. Below these links is the VeriSign Identity Protection logo and the copyright notice: 'Copyright © 1999-2009 PayPal. Alle Rechte vorbehalten.'



- this only works when logged in
 - always log out explicitly
 - do not use persistent logins
- you may want to check whether your password manager autofills inside frames

Is everything lost?

Yes