

Introduction to Data Management

Application Data Management

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Announcements

- HW5 is due on Friday
- HW6 M1 will be released end of this week
 - HW6 is substantial - don't procrastinate
 - **No late days for M1**
- Go to section!
 - Connect to Azure + setup, demo, useful tips

Agenda

- **Access Control**
- Passwords
- Data Privacy

DBMS controls

- Block unauthorized access
 - Tiered-access hierarchy
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 - Tiered-access hierarchy
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- HW3/HW6 autograder runs student submissions on staff tables in Azure
 - How do we protect from student INSERTs, DELETEs, etc. on read-only tables?

DBMS controls

Example: On Azure...

- Create a user

```
CREATE USER <username>  
WITH PASSWORD = <password>
```

```
CREATE USER autograder  
WITH PASSWORD = 'pass123'
```

DBMS controls

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- Create a user

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- Set permissions

```
GRANT <permissions>  
ON <table>  
TO <user/role>
```

```
GRANT SELECT  
ON MySecureTable  
TO autograder
```

DBMS controls

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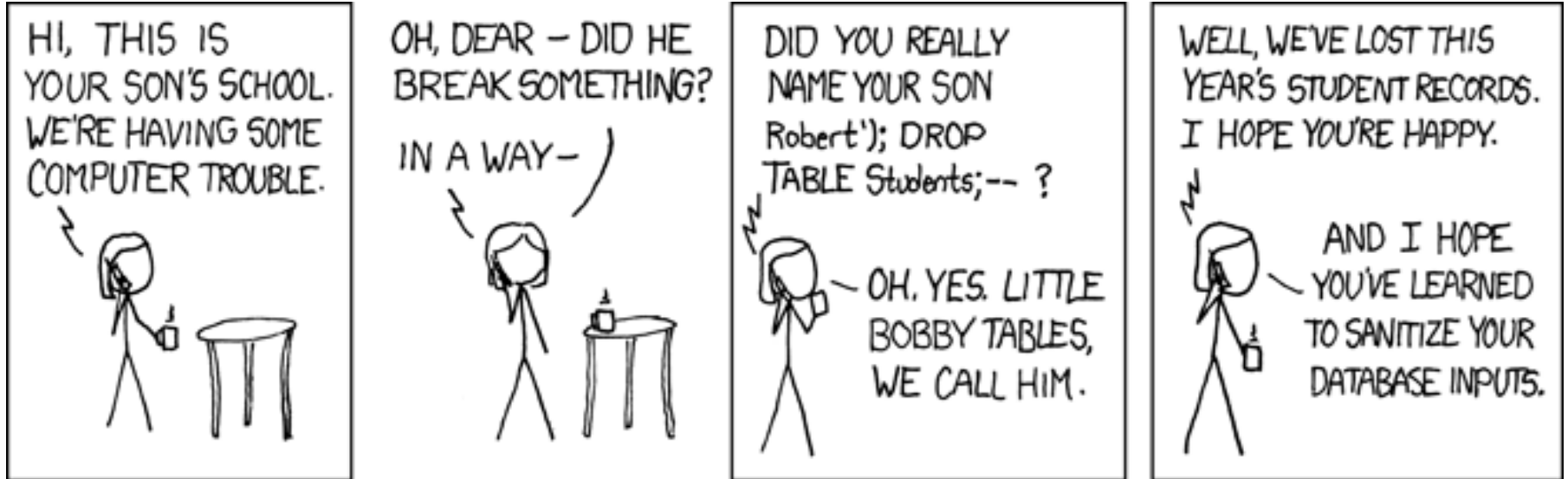
- Set permissions

```
GRANT <permissions>  
ON <table>  
TO <user/role>
```

```
GRANT SELECT  
ON MySecureTable  
TO autograder
```

If you login to *autograder*, you won't be able to UPDATE, DELETE, etc.!

SQL Injection



SQL Injection

- **SQL Injection:** Application input acts as code
- In applications, SQL queries are strings
 - Partly consists of user input
- Malicious user can trick DBMS into thinking their input is part of SQL code

SQL Injection

- Example: School admin database

```
INSERT INTO Students (id, 'name');
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id = 123
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name = "Robert'); DROP TABLE Students;--"
```

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```

- Send application's query string to database:

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INSERT INTO Students (123, 'Robert'); DROP TABLE Students;-- ');
```

SQL Injection

- Example: School admin database

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INSERT INTO Students (id, 'name');
```

- Malicious user input (in application):

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```
name = "Robert'); DROP TABLE Students;--"
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- Send application's query string to database:

```
INSERT INTO Students (123, 'Robert'); DROP TABLE Students;-- ');
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SQL Injection

- Other types of SQL injections
 - Union attack, retrieve another table's data

```
SELECT username, email
FROM Users
WHERE id =
    'user1' UNION SELECT username, password FROM AdminUsers --';
```

SQL Injection

- Other types of SQL injections
 - Union attack, retrieve another table's data

```
SELECT username, email
FROM Users
WHERE id =
    'user1' UNION SELECT username, password FROM AdminUsers --';
```

- Tautology attack, force TRUE condition to bypass filters

```
SELECT *
FROM Users
WHERE username = 'user1' OR 1 = 1 --' AND password = 'pass'
```


SQL Injection

- Consistently one of the top web-based attacks
 - In 2012, [Yahoo! exposed ~450k emails/passwords](#)
 - In 2011, [Sony potentially exposed PII from 1M+ users](#)
 - [~23% of all web vulnerabilities in 2023](#)

SQL Injection

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 - [~23% of all web vulnerabilities in 2023](#)
- Considered a “solved” problem
 - **Parameterize queries with prepared statements**

Java: JDBC

- Java API library to access DBMS
- PreparedStatement: prevent SQL injection attacks

Java: JDBC

- Java API library to access DBMS
- PreparedStatement: prevent SQL injection attacks

```
Statement withoutPlaceholder = con.createStatement();
withoutPlaceholder.execute("INSERT INTO Students VALUES('" + userInput + "')");

PreparedStatement withPlaceholder =
    con.prepareStatement("INSERT INTO Student VALUES(?)");
withPlaceholder.setString(1, userInput);
withPlaceholder.execute();
```

Agenda

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- **Passwords**
- Data Privacy

Storing Passwords

- Passwords are special
 - High potential for additional security compromises
 - Only operation that should be done is equality comparison

Storing Passwords

- Naive solution?

Storing Passwords


- Naive solution?

Username	Password
bobtheninja246	password
xDragonSlayerx	asdf
annabelle2001	password
lamamaster123	ilovefish
theSQLexpert234	j62ld12446
seahawksrule12	j62ld12446

Storing Passwords

NEVER store passwords in plaintext!!

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Hashing

- $\text{Hash}(\text{input}) \rightarrow \text{hash value}$
 - Input \rightarrow “scrambled” output

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- Hash(input) → hash value
 - Input → “scrambled” output
- Hashing is deterministic
 - Same input → same output
- Hashing (should be) noninvertible
 - For secure hash functions, computationally infeasible to derive input from the hash value

Storing Hashed Passwords

- Store hash instead

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Username	HashedPassword
bobtheninja246	3da541...
xDragonSlayerx	bfd361...
annabelle2001	3da541...
lamamaster123	5baa61...
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Validating Hashed Passwords

- Store hash instead
 - Validate any given password by hashing it and comparing with stored hash

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- lamamaster123 logs in with “ilovefish”

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- `hash(“ilovefish”) → 5baa61...`

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Validating Hashed Passwords

- Store hash instead
 - Validate any given password by hashing it and comparing with stored hash
- lamamaster123 logs in with “ilovefish”
- $\text{hash}(\text{“ilovefish”}) \rightarrow 5\text{baa}61\dots$
- $5\text{baa}61\dots == 5\text{baa}61\dots$
 - Accept login

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annabelle2001	3da541...
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Storing Passwords

- But... there are always users with bad passwords

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 - Easy to search for common password hashes!

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Storing Passwords

- But... there are always users with bad passwords
 - Easy to search for common password hashes!
 - Easy to spot shared or reused passwords!

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salt = getRandomSalt();  
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```

- Store salt and salted hash in database

Storing Salted + Hashed Passwords

Username	Password		Username	Salt	HashedPassword
bobtheninja246	password	➡	bobtheninja246	17	7a4959...
xDragonSlayerx	asdf	➡	xDragonSlayerx	m9	59438a...
annabelle2001	password		annabelle2001	23	4c812e...
lamamaster123	ilovefish		lamamaster123	q7	3e0e04...
theSQLexpert234	j62ld12446		theSQLexpert234	k3	dcfea6...
seahawksrule12	j62ld12446		seahawksrule12	ji	e840fc...

- Harder for attackers to search for common hashes
 - Unique salts → unique hashes for the same password

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- Harder to spot pairs of users ***sharing passwords***
 - Unique salts → unique hashes within dataset

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- Harder to spot pairs of users ***sharing passwords***
 - Unique salts → unique hashes within dataset
- Harder to spot users ***reusing passwords*** from other stolen datasets
 - Unique salts → unique hashes across datasets

Validating Hashed Passwords

- Validate by applying the stored salt before hashing

Username	Salt	Hashed Password
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lamamaster123	q7	3e0e04...
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- **salt = *getSaltFromDB*(‘lamamaster123’)**

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- **salt = *getSaltFromDB*(‘lamamaster123’)**
- **hash(“ilovefish”, salt) → 3e0e04...**
- 3e0e04... == 3e0e04...
 - Accept login

Agenda

- Access Control
- Passwords
- **Data Privacy**

Existing Laws and Regulations

- HIPAA (Health Information Portability and Accountability Act), 1996
 - Mandatory for healthcare and health insurance institutions
 - Privacy rule - patient rights, PHI, use/disclosure
 - Security rule - standards for safeguards

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 - Mandatory for healthcare and health insurance institutions
 - Privacy rule - patient rights, PHI, use/disclosure
 - Security rule - standards for safeguards
- GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation), 2018
 - Corporate disclosure and limits on user data storage
 - User data rights over PII

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- Mandatory for education institutions
 - Requires written consent to disclose academic info, with certain exceptions (court orders, school officials, etc.)

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 - Requires written consent to disclose academic info, with certain exceptions (court orders, school officials, etc.)
- Allows institutions to disclose “directory information” without consent (institution policies can be stronger)
 - Name
 - Email
 - Photographs
 - Phone Number

Implicit Disclosure

- If users can derive sensitive information like grades, it violates FERPA

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FERPA Deidentification

- 1) ID to anonymous ID mapping should be secret
- 2) Aggregate data (minimum n-size)
 - **Suppression** → Don't provide data 😞
 - Necessary for very small groups
 - **Rounding** → Bucket data or introduce noise 😊
 - More people means you can be more specific

Implicit Disclosure

- “Hey, can you give me the directory information for students with a GPA of 3.5?”

Reveals sensitive information by context

```
SELECT D.*  
  FROM Directory AS D, Grades AS G  
 WHERE D.id = G.id AND  
        G.gpa = 3.5
```

Implicit Disclosure

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  FROM Directory AS D, Grades AS G  
 WHERE D.id = G.id AND  
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- Database admins/designers should prevent these sorts of queries from being possible!

Anonymity

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- But by linking data from distinct datasets one can reveal private information
- In her PhD thesis* (2001) Latanya Sweeney described a famous example

* <https://dspace.mit.edu/handle/1721.1/8589>

Implicit Disclosure

Re-identification of Mass. Governor William Weld

- **Public voter data**

- Name
- ZIP code
- Sex
- Birth date
- ...

- **Anonymous insurance data** (released under assurance of anonymity from Gov. Weld)

- ZIP code
- Sex
- Birth date
- Prescription
- Diagnosis
- ...

Latanya Sweeney's Finding

- Massachusetts: GIC* is responsible for health insurance of state employees; public data

```
GIC(zip, dob, sex,  
    diagnosis, procedure, ...)
```

*Group Insurance Commission

Latanya Sweeney's Finding

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- 3 had also **sex**='M'

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- William Weld** lived in Cambridge: in VOTER
- 6 people had same **dob**
- 3 had also **sex**='M'
- Weld only one in that **zip**

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```
VOTER(name, party, ...,  
      zip, dob, sex)
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Latanya Sweeney's Finding

Cambridge, MA Voter Data (\$20)

Name	ZIP	Sex	Bday
...
W. Weld	12345	M	Feb 30
...



Anon. Insurance Data for Researchers

ZIP	Sex	Bday	MedInfo
...
12345	M	Feb 30	Afluenza
...

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ZIP	Sex	Bday	MedInfo
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6 matches on ZIP
3 matches on Sex
1 match on Bday

Name	...	MedInfo
...
W. Weld	...	Afluenza
...

Sweeney learned Weld's medical records !

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Name	ZIP	Sex	Bday
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W. Weld	12345	M	Feb 30
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ZIP	Sex	Bday	MedInfo
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Legal in 1997
Deemed private since 2003

6 matches on ZIP
3 matches on Sex
1 match on Bday

Name	...	MedInfo
...
W. Weld	...	Afluenza
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Sweeney learned Weld's medical records !

Sensitive Information

- Personal Identifiable Information (PII)
 - Names
 - Student ID
 - Social security number
 - License number
- Protected data (for legal and/or ethical reasons)
 - Academic records (FERPA)
 - Protected Health Information (HIPAA)
 - User Web Data (GDPR)
- Passwords

Takeaways

- Always parameterize input into prepared statements to prevent SQL injection
 - JDBC PreparedStatement for HW6
- Always hash + salt passwords before storing them in a database
 - You will implement this in HW6
- Be careful about what information can be inferred from your datasets
 - Always protect sensitive data!