

Servlets 2

Session Operation

Server Side Session
in Memory
get/set State for later requests
Cookie implementation -- id
1. getSession(boolean)
2. session.getValue()/putValue()

Why Not just use IP addr?

Some Internet connections have multiple machines sharing one IP addr.

Session Servlet Code

request.getParamter("foo")
CGI like -- prints HTML

Tracker in memory

Create tracker on new session
Change state of tracker in memory
Find the tracker later

No ivars

Cookie Features

1. Defined on server response
2. Stored by client
3. Sent by client on request
response.addCookie(cookie)
cookie.setMaxAge(int)
request.getCookies()

#1 Persistent Cookies for prefs

e.g. Slashdot view prefs
e.g. nytimes login
Stored in client file -- not for secrets

#2 Temporary Cookie for session ID

id=12435 on first response
illusion of "session" across pages
works for A-B-A site cross-over
timeout the session on the server side -- 10..30 minutes

Cookies: identity not secrecy

Incorrect Checkout Cookie:

1. get password
 2. write auth=true cookie
- Problem: Spoofable
Problem: "library problem"

Correct Checkout Cookie

1. get password
 2. mark server-side session auth=true
- Can ask for password again

CGI-Problems

Code+HTML mess
Programmers = expensive

PHP/ASP/JSP Niche

HTML + code snippets
Look like HTML mostly
Use HTML tools
Use HTML people
Reality: can reduce but not eliminate real "code" issues