# 20 – Privacy and anonymity tools

Lorrie Cranor April 3, 2017

05-436 / 05-836 / 08-534 / 08-734 / 19-534 / 19-734 Usable Privacy and Security Carnegie Mellon University CyLab



Engineering & Public Policy



#### Today's class

- Types of privacy tools
- Opt-out tools
- Anonymity tools
- Discussion

#### Privacy space framework

Category	Description	Examples
Awareness	Informative	Display information about trackers on current webpage, whether location is being sent
Detection	Actively look for problems	Find trackers on current webpage
Prevention	Used as a precaution	Encryption tools, anonymity tools
Response	Taking action after a problem is detected	Tracking blocker
Recovery	Help you get back to normal	Patching bugs

Benjamin Brunk. A user-centric privacy space framework. In Cranor and Gafinkel, eds. *Security and Usability*. O'Reilly 2005. p. 401-420.

#### **Privacy Enhancing Technologies**

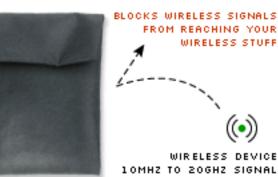


RSA Blocker tag, a patentpending RFID device that aims to protect consumer privacy without disrupting normal RFID functioning. This prototype of the RSA Blocker tag is designed to provide an accurate consumer experience, but to work only in a demo environment.



RSA

Making the world safe for RFID



http://www.mobilecloak.com/



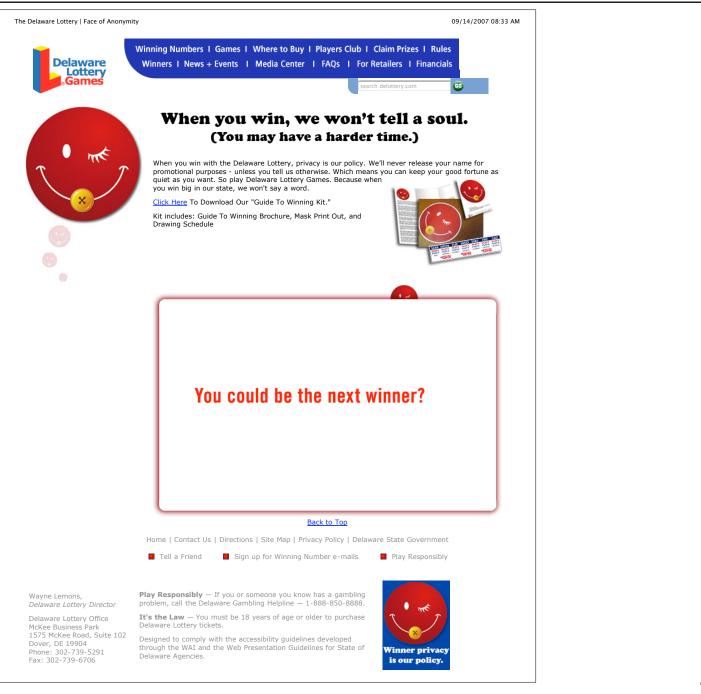
http://tor.eff.org/













#### Types of privacy tools

- Cookie/tracker blockers
- Opt-out, do not track
- Tracking awareness
- Encryption
  - Email, chat, web traffic, VPN, files, file system, disk
- Cleaners/wipers
  - Delete/don't store browser history, delete files

- Anonymity
  - Web traffic, email, bulletin boards, surveys, voting
- Obfuscation
  - Add noise to web browsing, searches, databases
- Physical
  - Walls, curtains, blinds, laptop privacy screens, shredders
- Others?

## Where can privacy tools be implemented?

- Built into browsers
- Browser pluggins
- Mobile apps
- Standalone user tool
- Web-based
- Server-side tool
- Built into operating systems
- On the network (routers, firewalls, etc.)

#### Challenges

- Conveying the purpose of the tool
  - In what way does this tool protect privacy?
- Conveying current privacy state
  - Is tool currently on and working? Have trackers been detected?
- Configuration
  - Provide meaningful and flexible options users can understand and configure to match their preferences and meet their needs, don't overwhelm users with too many options they can't understand, make options easy to find and access
- Avoiding errors, failing safe
  - Will users believe they are protected when they are not?

### Why Johnny Can't Opt Out

- August 2011 lab study
- 45 participants, each evaluated 1 of 9 tools
  - Screened for non-technical, no knowledge about privacy tools but interested in testing them
- Protocol
  - Task 1: Learn about and install the tool
  - Task 2: Change tool settings
  - Task 3: Browsing scenario
  - Exit questionnaire

Why Johnny Can't Opt Out: A Usability Evaluation of Tools to Limit Online Behavioral Advertising. Pedro G. Leon, Blase Ur, Rebecca Balebako, Lorrie Faith Cranor, Richard Shay, and Yang Wang *CHI 2012* 

## Online behavioral advertising (OBA)

travelocity	'* Hello! si	gn Up	My A	ccount   Fe	edback	Customer Suppo	t or call	1.888.872.8356 GO	
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#### Later that day...

#### On <u>www.reference.com</u>:







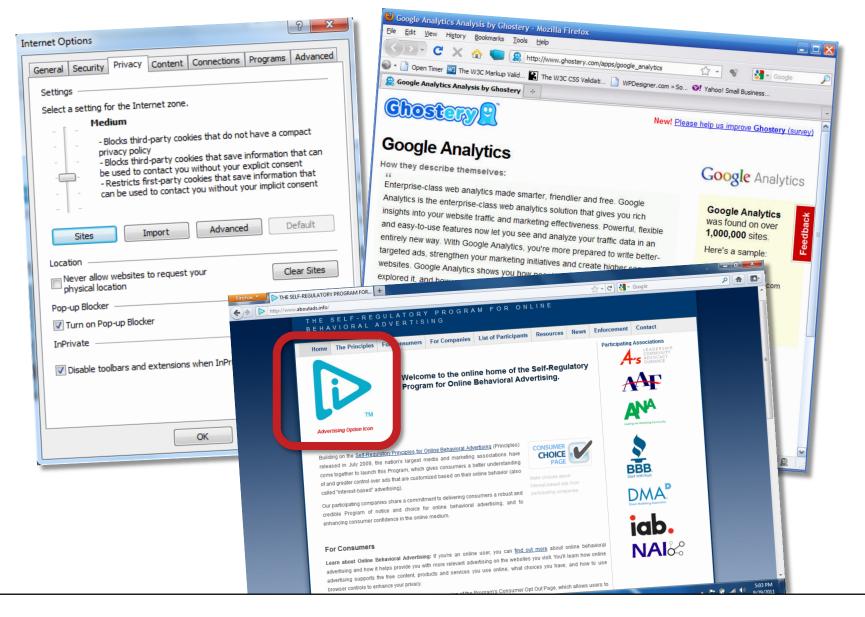
On <u>www.cnn.com</u>: is it OBA?

#### On www.nytimes.com

Antwerp Vacations Enjoy Relaxation This Fall Only In Antwerp. More Info Here! www.coolcapitals.com

Traveling to Europe? All Inclusive Car Rental Prog in EU For American Tourists! Visit Us Now www.renaultusa.com

#### **OBA choice mechanisms**



#### Three types of tools tested



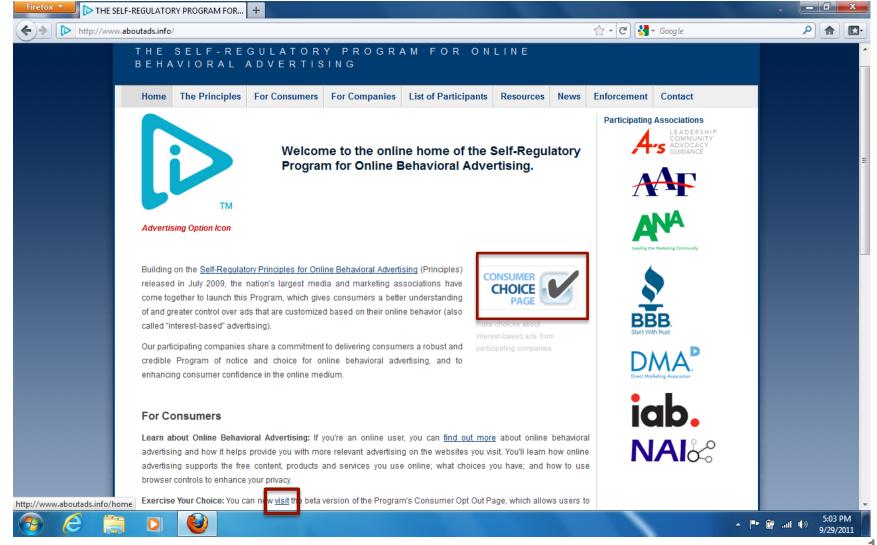
#### Tools to provide notice & choice

- Support from industry, FTC, White House
- Do the tools work?
  - Does technology do what it is supposed to do?
  - Do companies respect user choices?
- Can consumers use them?
  - Do users understand tracking?
  - Do users understand what tools do?
  - Can users make tools do what they want?

#### Major problems with all tools

- Communication problems and confusing interfaces
- Inappropriate defaults
- Users can't distinguish between trackers
- Need for feedback
- Users want protections that don't break websites

#### **DAA** website



Opting out can be	challenging
Google	
Translate From: Japanese - detected - To: English -	Translate
すでにターゲティング広告が配信されている場合、すべての配信 停止処理にはお時間かかる場合があります。 この処理は、ユーザー情報を参考にしたターゲティング広告を配 信停止しただけになっていますので、 それ以外の広告配信につい ては停止処理を行っていませんこと、ご了承下さい。	If you have already targeted ads are delivered, all unsubscribe process may take your time. This process has not only stop targeting ads that reference the user information for ad serving, otherwise it does not stop in the process, please understand.
Ä	New! Click the words above to view alternate translations. Dismiss

#### Ghostery configuration interface

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#### IE settings use jargon

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Settings		
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Never allow websites to request your Clear physical location	r Sites	s
Pop-up Blocker		
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InPrivate		
☑ Disable toolbars and extensions when InPrivate Browsing star	ts	
OK Cancel	Ap	ply

Blocks third-party cookies that do not have a compact privacy policy

Restricts first-party cookies that save information that can be used to contact you without your implicit consent

### IE tracking protection list

Manage Add-ons				-	×
View and manage your Interne	et Explorer add-ons				
Add-on Types	Name	Status	Address		
🚳 Toolbars and Extensions	Your Personalized List	Enabled			
Search Providers					
Accelerators					
STracking Protection					
Get a Tracking Protection Lis	st online				
Learn more about Tracking Protection					Close
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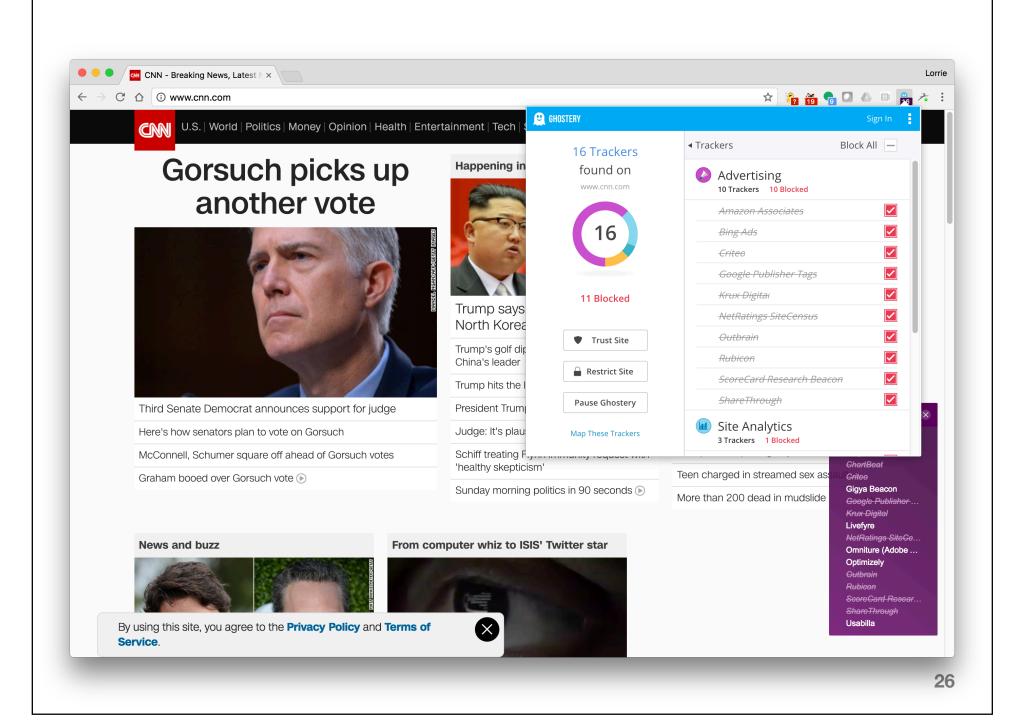
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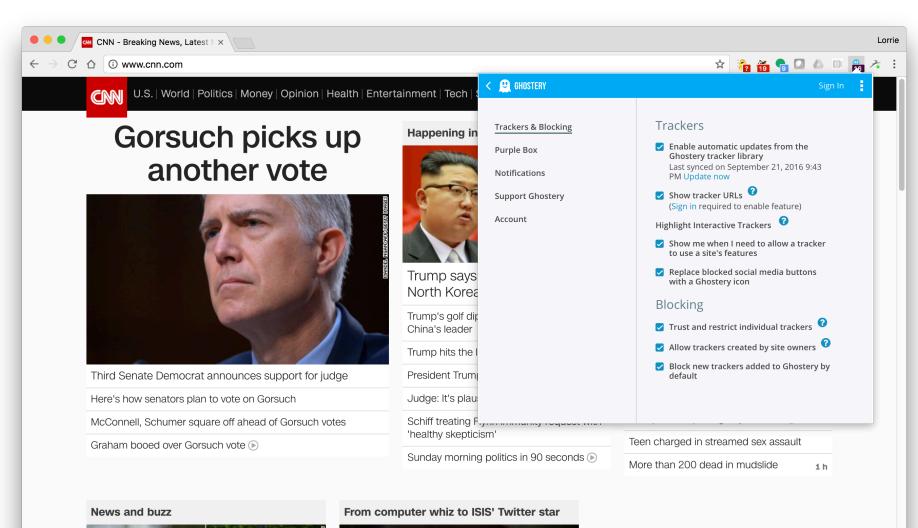
#### Takeaways

- Problematic defaults
- Poorly designed interfaces and jargon
- Feedback
- Misconceptions about opt-out tools
- Users unable to make meaningful decisions on a per-company basis

#### Some recent improvements/changes

- Many changes to UIs of pluggin tools
- Microsoft removed some privacy features from Edge
- Do Not Track standard continues to be a work in progress
- DAA website hasn't changed much







By using this site, you agree to the **Privacy Policy** and **Terms of Service**.

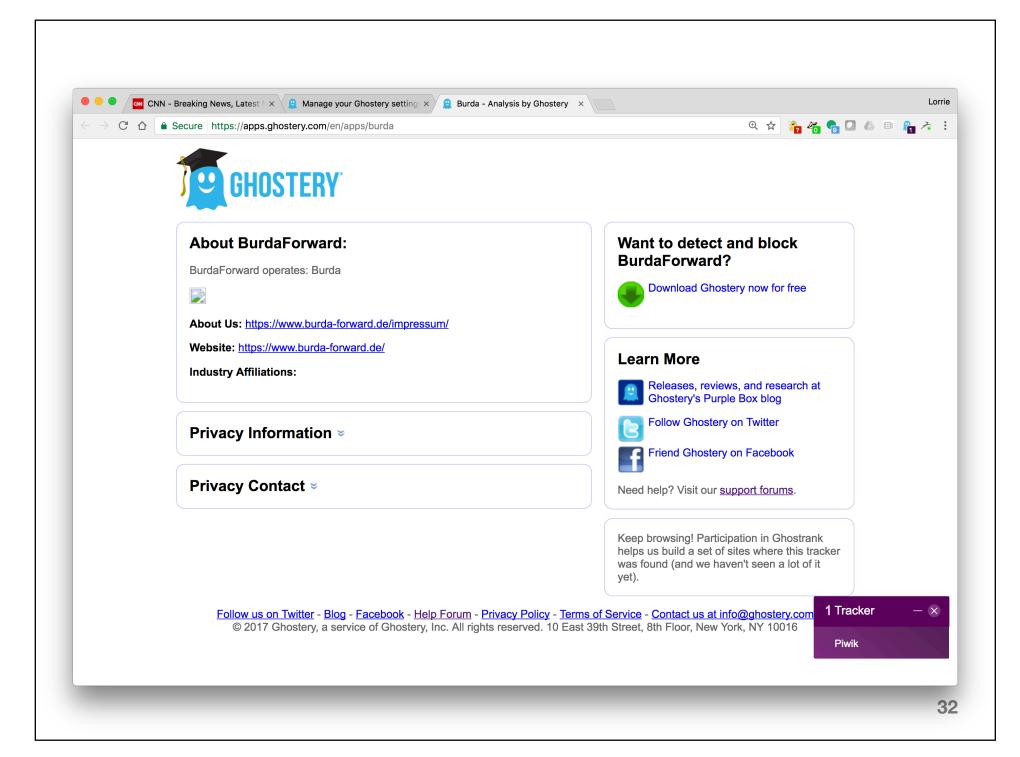


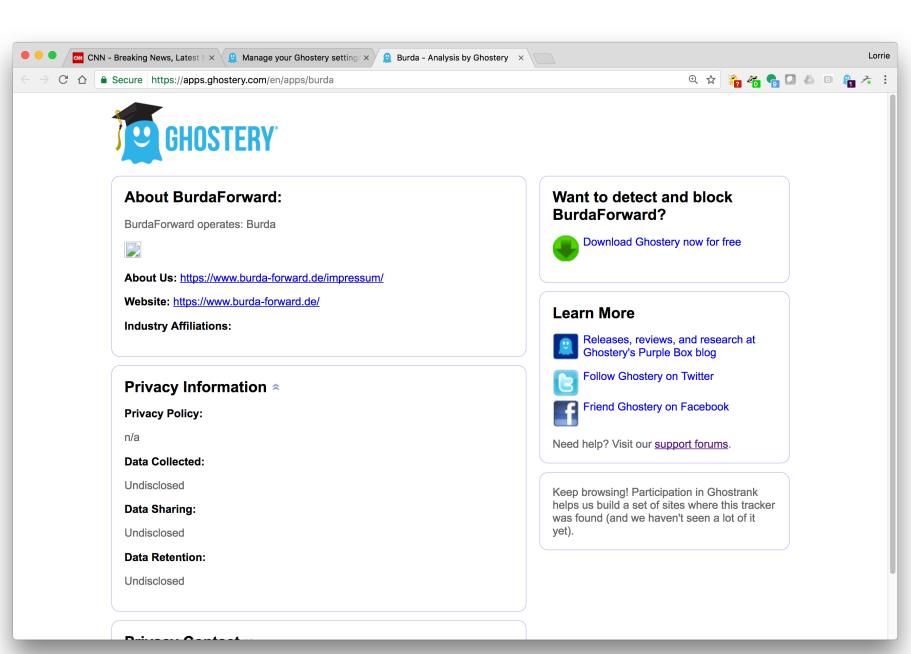
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	rackers that you want to block, individually or by category, to customize your browsing experience.	
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Categorie	es Collapse   Expand Show All Trackers -	Unblock All   Block All
6	Advertising 1546 TRACKERS 1518 Blocked Provides advertising or advertising-related services such as data collection, behavioral analysis or retargeting.	
	Site Analytics 531 TRACKERS 127 Blocked Collects and analyzes data related to site usage and performance.	
•	Customer Interaction 234 TRACKERS 30 Blocked Includes chat, email messaging, customer support, and other interaction tools.	
	Social Media 94 TRACKERS All trackers in category blocked	

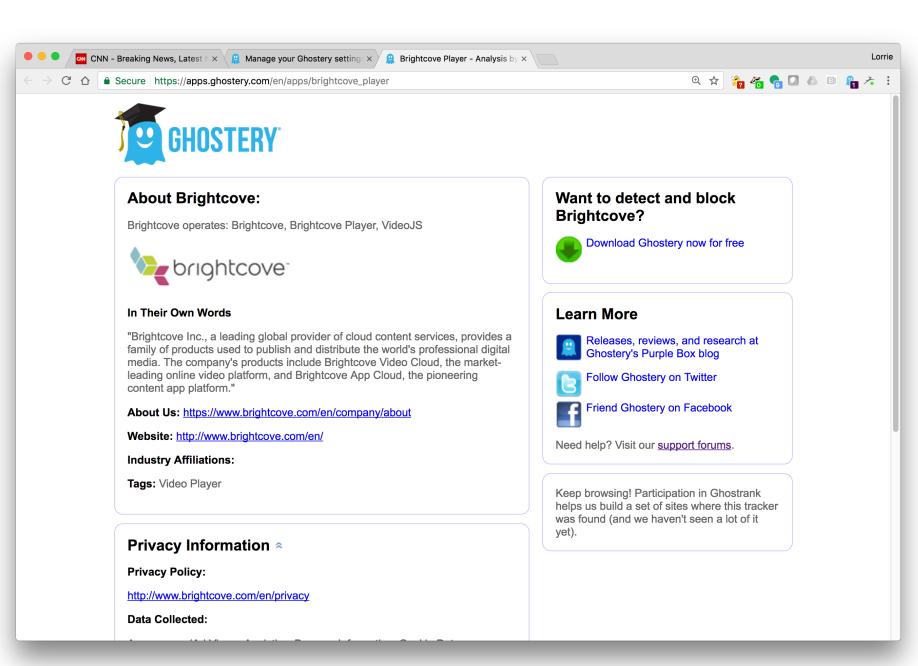
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	Customer Interaction 234 TRACKERS 30 Blocked Includes chat, email messaging, customer support, and other interaction tools.		
	Social Media 94 TRACKERS All trackers in category blocked Integrates features related to social media sites.		
	Audio/Video Player 48 TRACKERS 14 Blocked Enables websites to publish, distribute, and optimize video and audio content.		
	Essential 47 TRACKERS 3 Blocked Includes tag managers, privacy notices, and technologies that are critical to the functionality of a website.		
	Adult Advertising 19 TRACKERS All trackers in category blocked Delivers advertising technology designed specifically for adult content sites.		
	Comments 10 TRACKERS Enables comments sections for articles and product reviews.		
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	Gannett Media	
	Gazprom-Media Digital	
	Georama	
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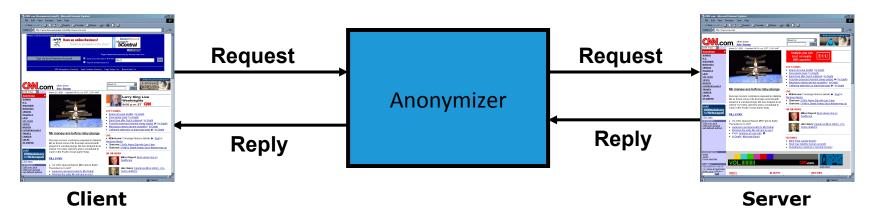






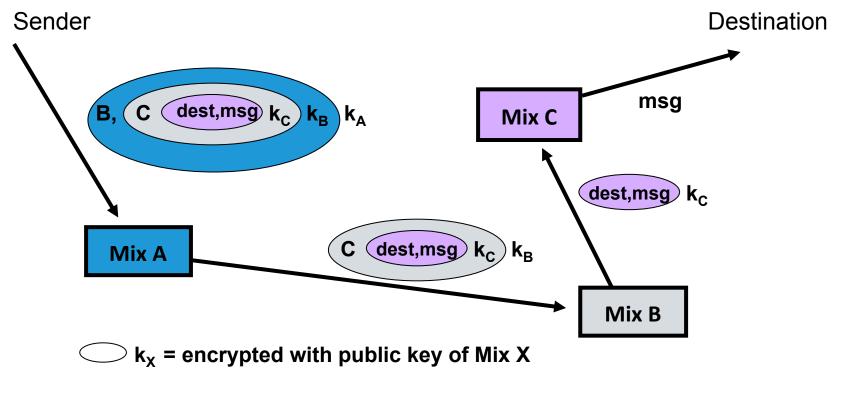
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Tags: Video Player	Keep browsing! Participation in Ghostrank helps us build a set of sites where this tracker was found (and we haven't seen a lot of it
Privacy Information	yet).
Privacy Policy:	
http://www.brightcove.com/en/privacy	
Data Collected:	
Anonymous (Ad Views, Analytics, Browser Information, Cookie Data , Date/Time, Demographic Data, Hardware/Software Type, Internet Service Provider, Interaction Data , Page Views ) Pseudonymous (IP Address (EU PII), Search History, Location Based Data, Device ID (EU PII)) PII (PII Collected via 3rd Parties, Login, EU- IP Address, EU- Unique Device ID , Personally Identifiable Information (details undisclosed)) Sensitive (Financial Information)	
Data Sharing:	
Aggregate data is shared with 3rd parties., Anonymous data is shared with 3rd parties.	
Data Retention:	
As long as necessary to fulfill a business need or as required by law.	
Privacy Contact ≈	

#### The Anonymizer

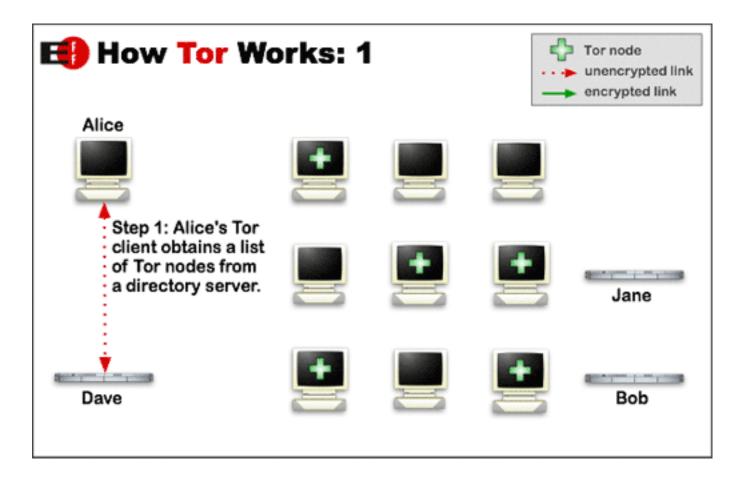


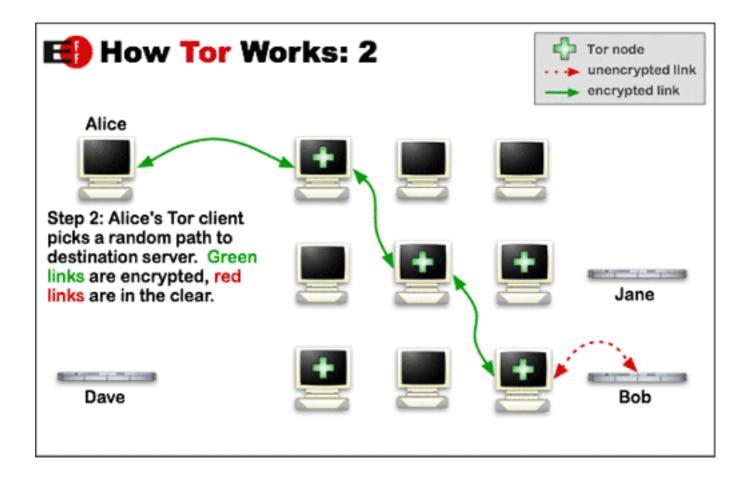
- Acts as a proxy for users
- Hides information from end servers
- Sees all web traffic
- Adds ads to pages (free service; subscription service also available)
- <u>http://www.anonymizer.com</u>

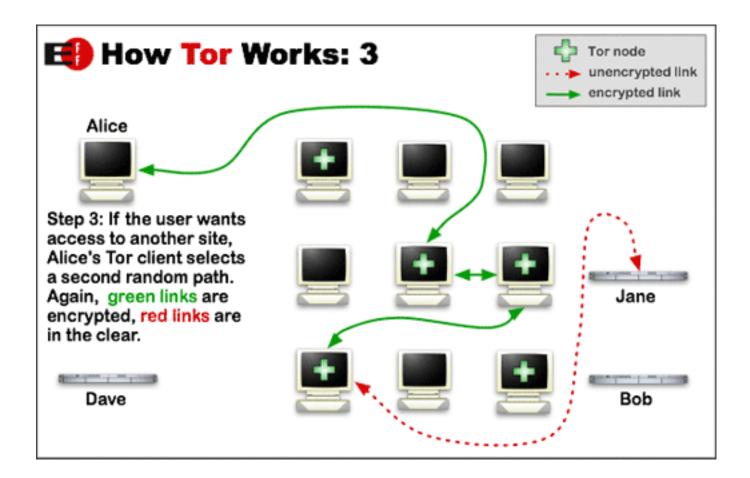
#### Mixes [Chaum81]



Sender routes message randomly through network of "Mixes", using layered public-key encryption.







#### Privacy tool discussion

- What are your favorite privacy tools?
- What functions do they perform?
- What makes them usable?