



# Anonymity Online – Current Solutions and Challenges

Prof. Dr. Hannes Federrath

Security in distributed systems

<http://svs.informatik.uni-hamburg.de>

- Classical IT security follows a risk approach which addresses the violation of access rules by dishonest users.

Confidentiality

unauthorized release of information

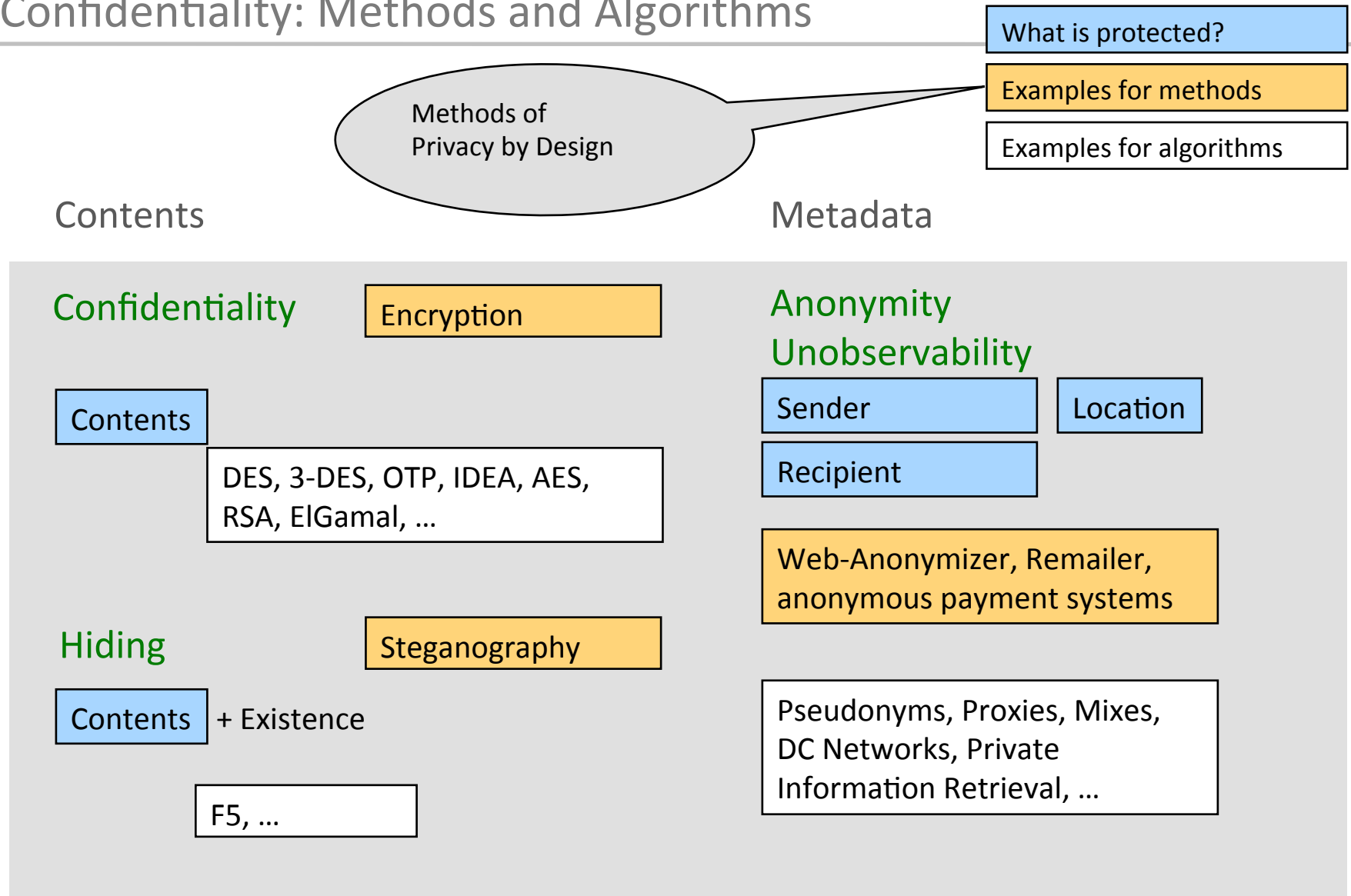
Integrity

unauthorized modification of information

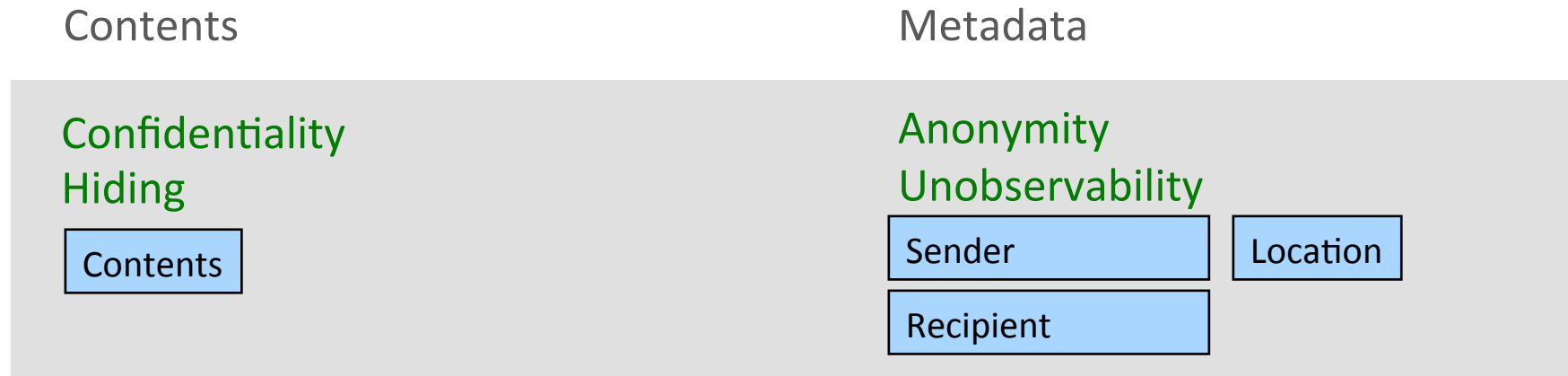
Availability

unauthorized denial of use of resources

# Confidentiality: Methods and Algorithms

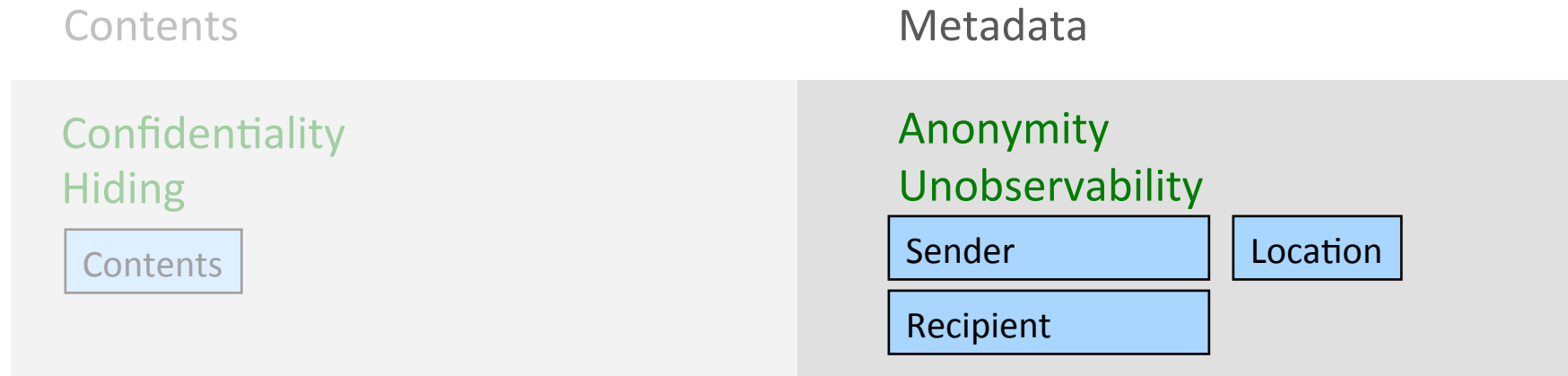


# Confidentiality: Protection goals and attacker model



- **Outsider**
  - eavesdropping on communication lines
  - traffic analysis
- **Insider**
  - network operators or malicious staff
  - governmental organizations

# Confidentiality: Protection goals and attacker model



- **Anonymity**
  - Protection of the identity of a user while using a service
- **Unobservability**
  - Protection of the communication relations of users
  - Users may know identity of each other

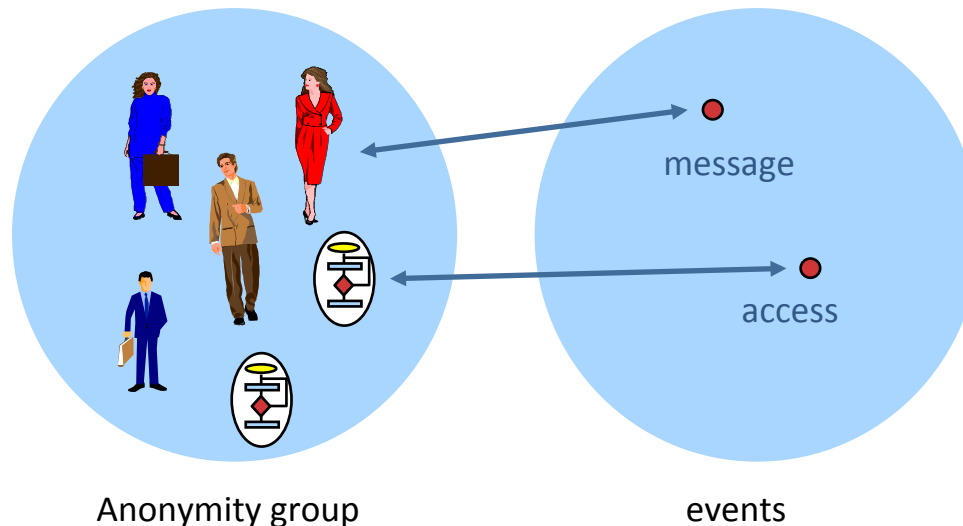
Service or users cannot link communication events to identities

# Anonymity group

- A single event, caused by a single person, cannot be anonymously or unobservable.
- We need a group of persons, who behave equal:

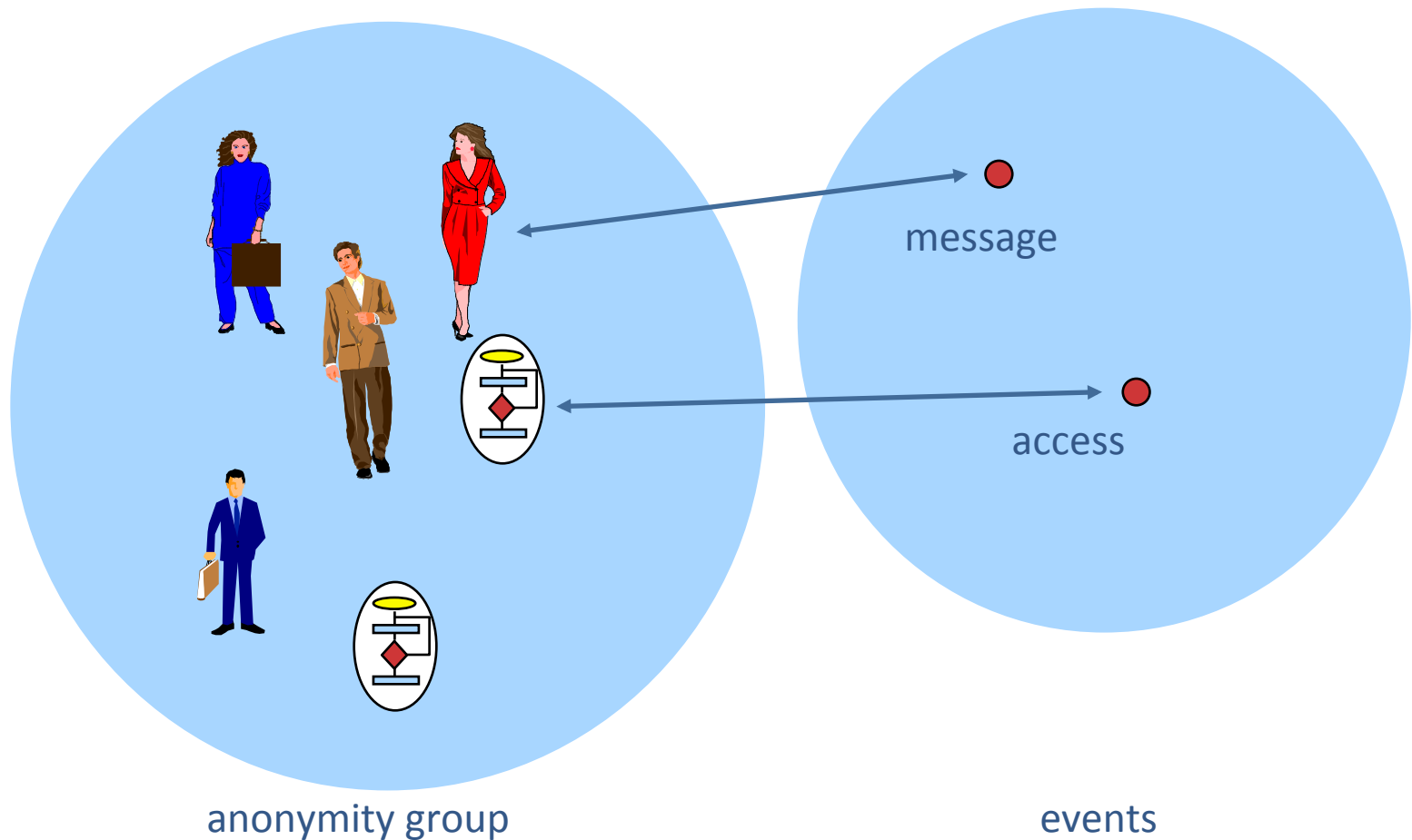
## *Anonymity group*

- Each member of an anonymity group is possibly the creator of an event.
- A public known characteristic, which all members of the anonymity group fulfill, cannot be anonymous.



# Anonymity and unobservability

- Everybody can be the originator of an event with an equal likelihood



# Anonymity and unobservability and ISO OSI network levels

## User

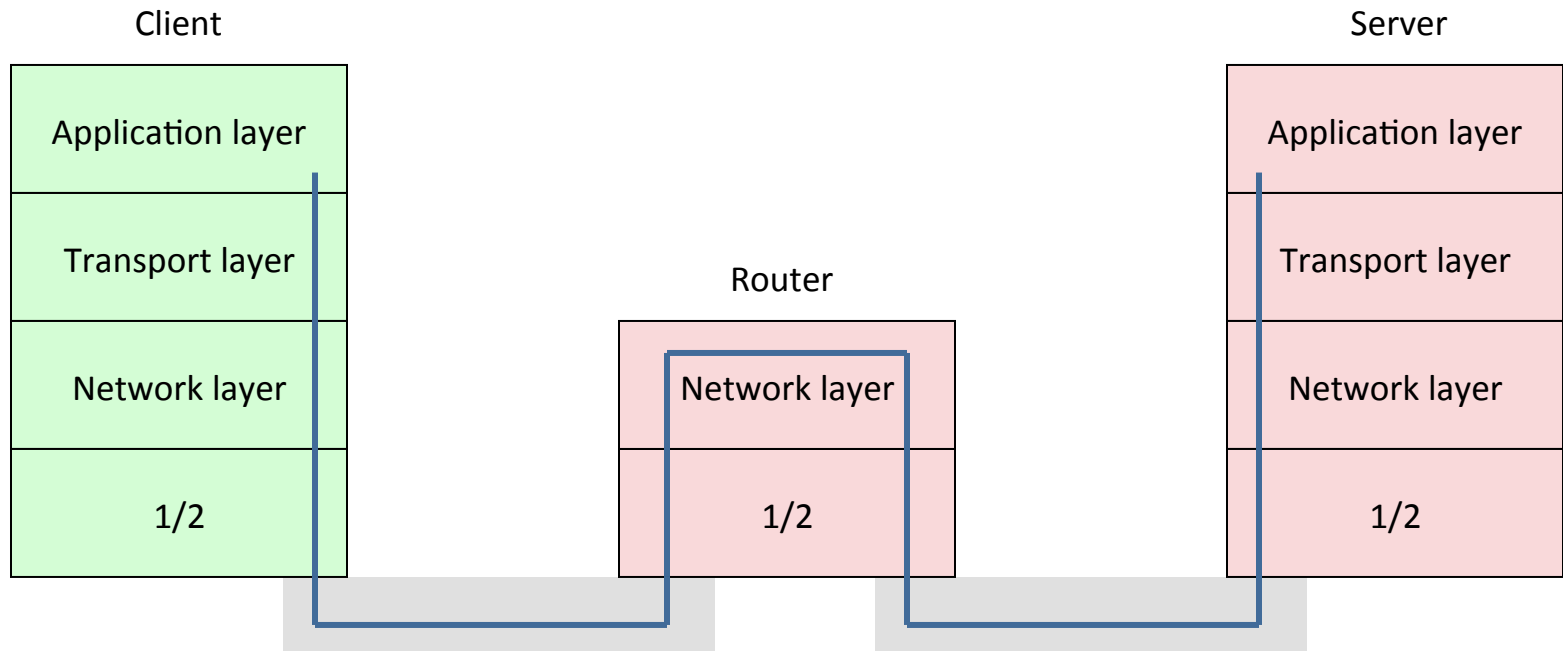
- honest
- no malicious code

## Outsiders

- eavesdropping on communication lines
- traffic analysis

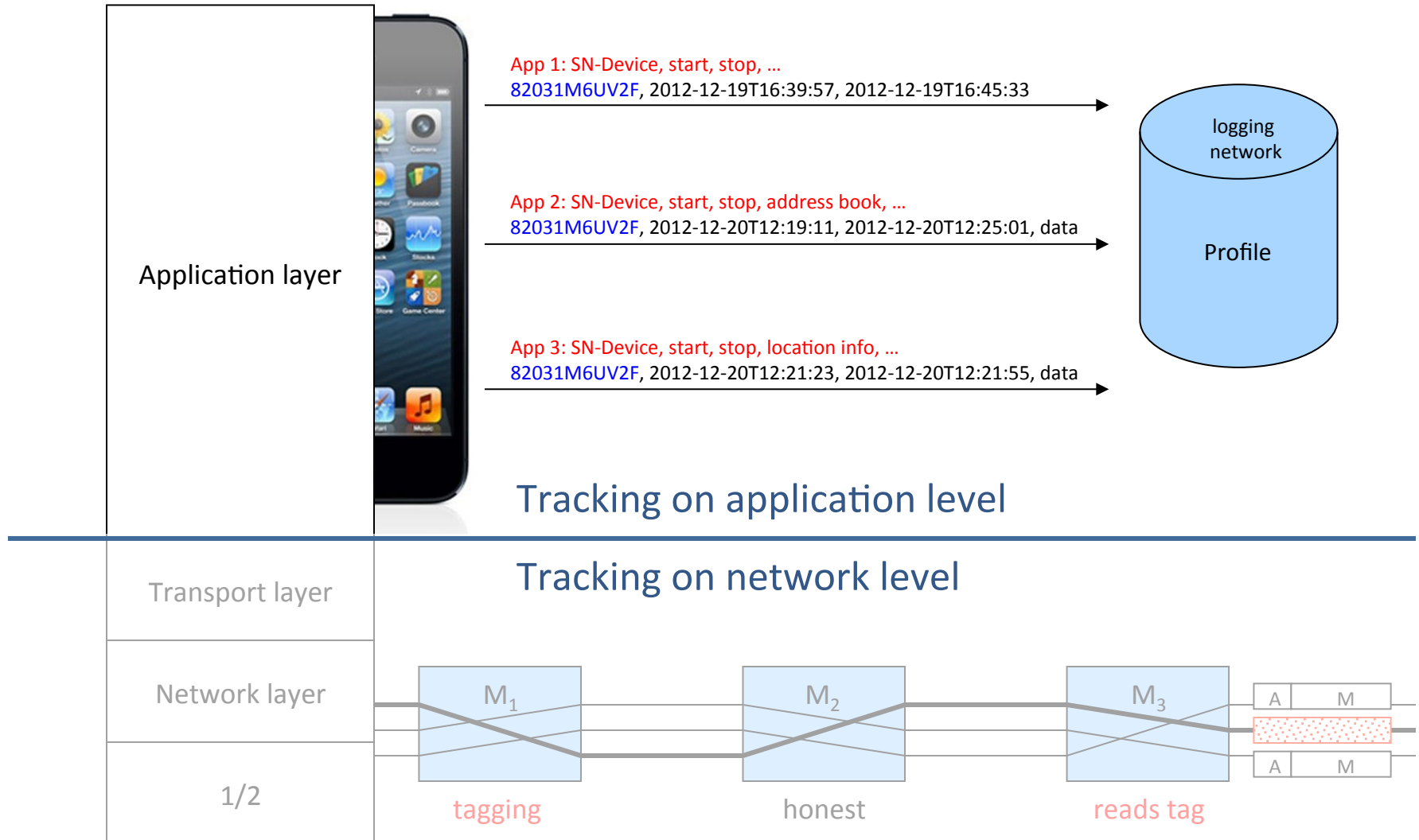
## Insiders

- network operators or malicious staff
- governmental organizations

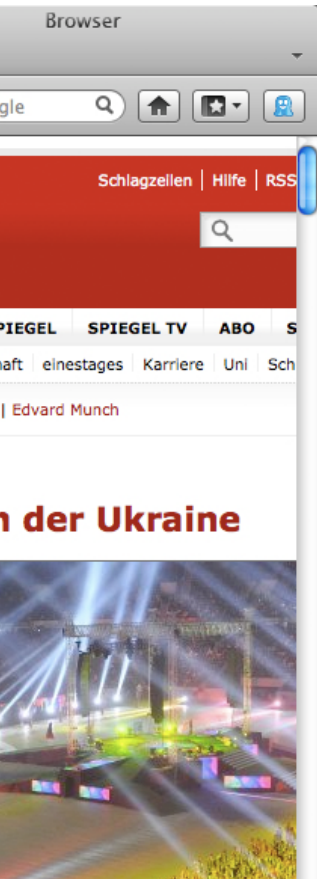




# Anonymity and unobservability and ISO OSI network levels



# Third-Party Cookies



GET <http://adnet.example.net/banner1.gif>

Cookie: guid=8867563

Referer: <http://www.bookshop.example>

GET <http://adnet.example.net/banner2.gif>

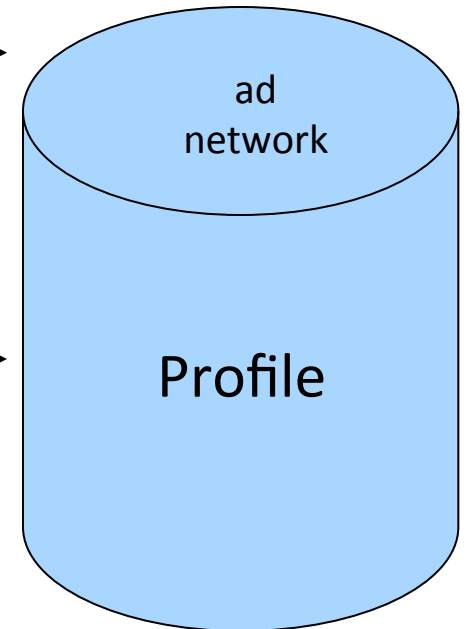
Cookie: guid=8867563

Referer: <http://www.healthinfo.example>

GET <http://adnet.example.net/banner3.gif>

Cookie: guid=8867563

Referer: <http://www.lifeinsurance.example>



Protection: Delete cookies

# Mobile logging networks



App 1: SN-Device, start, stop, ...

82031M6UV2F, 2012-12-19T16:39:57, 2012-12-19T16:45:33

App 2: SN-Device, start, stop, address book, ...

82031M6UV2F, 2012-12-20T12:19:11, 2012-12-20T12:25:01,  
data

App 3: SN-Device, start, stop, location info, ...

82031M6UV2F, 2012-12-20T12:21:23, 2012-12-20T12:21:55,  
data

logging network

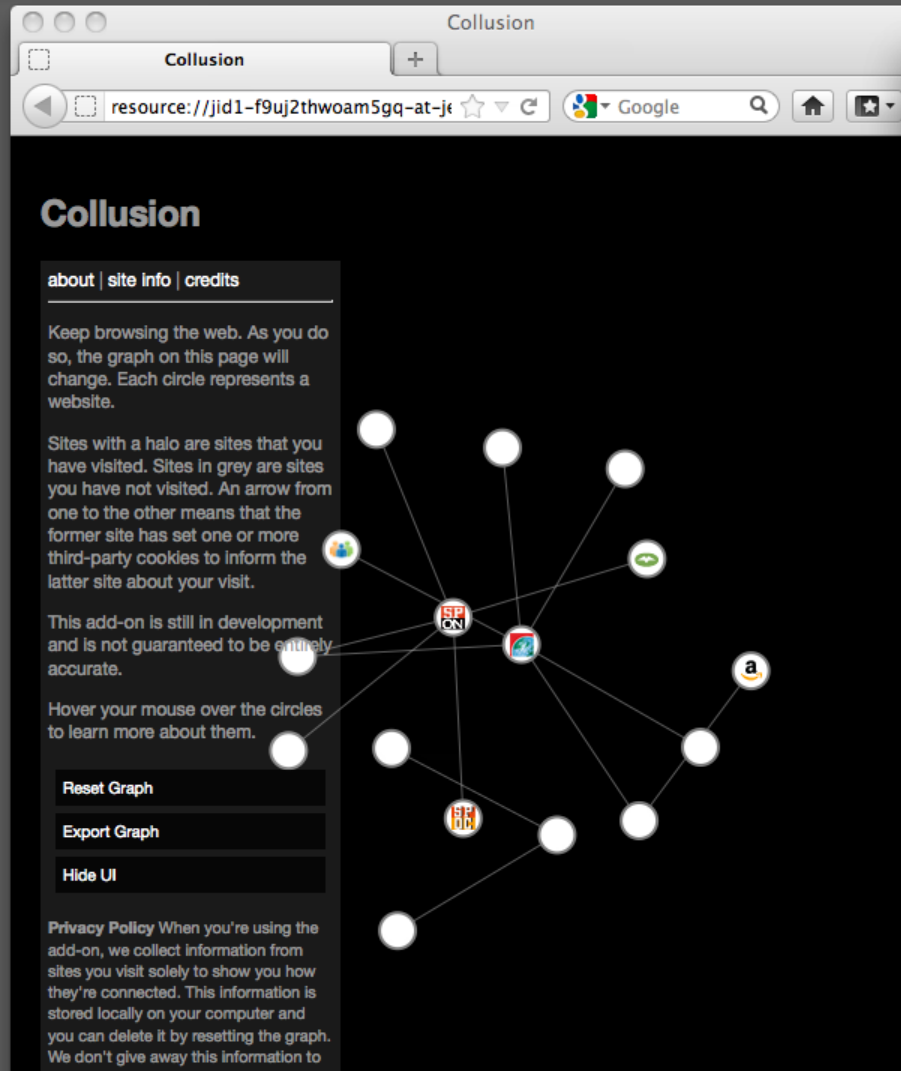
Profile

How to protect?

# Lightbeam (Collusion) to visualize tracking

Left: Dependency graph

Right: Browser window



- Tracking with a «Browser Fingerprint» (without cookies)
- Tracking data and entropy:
  - User Agent: ca. 10 Bit
  - HTTP\_ACCEPT Headers: ca. 7 Bit
  - Browser Plugin Details: ca. 20 Bit
  - Time Zone: ca. 2,5 Bit
  - Screen Size and Color Depth: ca. 5 Bit
  - System Fonts:  $\geq 21$  Bit
  - Are Cookies Enabled? ca. 0,4 Bit
  - Limited supercookie test? ca. 1 Bit
- <https://panoptick.eff.org>





The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Panoptick" with the URL `https://panoptick.eff.org/index.php?action=log&js=yes`. The page features a large "Panoptick" logo with a target icon in the 'o', and the subtitle "How Unique – and Trackable – Is Your Browser?". The main content area has a light gray fingerprint background and contains the following text:

Your browser fingerprint **appears to be unique** among the 2,650,230 tested so far.

Currently, we estimate that your browser has a fingerprint that conveys at least **21.34 bits of identifying information**.

The measurements we used to obtain this result are listed below. You can read more about our methodology, statistical results, and some defenses against fingerprinting in [this article](#).

Help us increase our sample size: [Email icon] [G+ icon] [Twitter icon] [Facebook icon] [LinkedIn icon]

Browser Characteristic	bits of identifying information	one in x browsers have this value	value
User Agent	10.27	1231.52	Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_8_2) AppleWebKit/536.26.17 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/6.0.2 Safari/536.26.17
HTTP_ACCEPT	7.01	120.02	text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8



Panopticklick			
https panopticklick.eff.org/index.php?action=log&js=yes			
User Agent	10.27	1231.52	Safari/536.26.17
HTTP_ACCEPT Headers	7.01	129.03	text/html, */* gzip, deflate de-de
Browser Plugin Details	20.34	1325115	<p>Plugin 0: Java-Applet-Plug-In; Zeigt Java-Applet-Inhalte an oder einen Platzhalter, falls Java nicht installiert ist.; JavaAppletPlugin.plugin; (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.1.3; ) (Basic Java Applets; application/x-java-applet; javaapplet) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.2.2; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.5; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-vm; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.3.1; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.3; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.1.2; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.1; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-vm-npruntime; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.2.1; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.6; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.4.2; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;pl-version=1.6.0_37; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.4; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.1.1; ) (Java applet; application/x-java-applet;version=1.2; ). Plugin 1: QuickTime Plug-in 7.7.1; Mit dem QuickTime Plug-in können Sie eine Vielzahl von Multimedia-Inhalten auf Webseiten anzeigen. Weitere Informationen erhalten Sie auf der Web-Site <a href="http://www.apple.com/de/quicktime">fÄ¼r &lt;A HREF=http://www.apple.com/de/quicktime&gt;QuickTime&lt;/A&gt;</a>; QuickTime Plugin.plugin; (Video fÄ¼r Windows (AVI); video/x-msvideo; avi,vfw) (MP3-Audio; audio/mp3; mp3.swa) (MP3-Audio; audio/mpeg3; mp3.swa) (3GPP2-Medien; video/3gpp2; 3g2,3gp2) (CAF-Audio; audio/x-caf; caf) (MPEG-Audio; audio/mpeg; mpeg,mpg,m1s,m1a,mp2,mpm,mpa,m2a,mp3,swa) (QuickTime Film; video/quicktime; mov,qt,mqv) (MP3-Audio; audio/x-mpeg3; mp3.swa) (MPEG-4 Medien; video/mp4; mp4) (SDP-Stream Beschreibung; application/x-sdp; sdp) (WAVE-Audio; audio/wav; wav,bwf) (Video fÄ¼r Windows (AVI); video/avi; avi,vfw) (AC3 Audio; audio/x-ac3; ac3) (MPEG-4 Medien; audio/mp4; mp4) (Video (geschÄ¼tzt); video/x-m4v; m4v) (SDP-Stream Beschreibung; application/sdp; sdp) (WAVE-Audio; audio/x-wav; wav,bwf) (AIFF-Audio; audio/x-aiff; aiff,aif,aifc,odda) (MPEG-Medien; video/x-mpeg; mpeg,mpg,m1s,m1v,m1a,m75,m15,mp2,mpm,mpv,mpa) (3GPP-Medien; video/3gpp; 3gp,3gpp) (Video fÄ¼r Windows (AVI); video/msvideo; avi,vfw) (MPEG-Audio; audio/x-mpeg; mpeg,mpg,m1s,m1a,mp2,mpm,mpa,m2a,mp3,swa) (QUALCOMM PureVoice Audio; audio/vnd.qcelp; qcp,qcp) (MP3-Audio; audio/x-mp3; mp3.swa) (RTSP-Stream Beschreibung; application/x-rtsp; rtsp,rtts) (AMR-Audio; audio/amr; amr) (SD-Video; video/sd-video; sdv) (AIFF-Audio; audio/aiff; aiff,aif,aifc,odda) (MPEG-Medien; video/mpeg; mpeg,mpg,m1s,m1v,m1a,m75,m15,mp2,mpm,mpv,mpa) (3GPP2-Medien; audio/3gpp2; 3g2,3gp2) (AAC-Audio; audio/aac; aac,adts) (AC3 Audio; audio/ac3; ac3) (AAC-HÄ¼rbuch; audio/x-m4b; m4b) (AAC-Audiodatei (geschÄ¼tzt); audio/x-m4p; m4p) (GSM-Audio; audio/x-gsm; gsm) (AMC-Medien; application/x-mpeg; amc) (AAC-Audio; audio/x-aac; aac,adts) (uLaw/AU-Audio; audio/basic; au,snd,u1w) (AAC-Audio; audio/x-m4a; m4a) (3GPP-Medien; audio/3gpp; 3gp,3gpp). Plugin 2: Shockwave Flash; Shockwave Flash 11.5 r502; Flash Player.plugin; (Shockwave Flash; application/x-shockwave-flash; swf) (FutureSplash Player; application/futuresplash; spl). Plugin 3: WebKit-integrierte PDF; ; (PDF (Portable Document Format); application/pdf; pdf). Plugin 4: iPhotoPhotocast; iPhoto6; iPhotoPhotocast.plugin; (iPhoto 700; application/photo; ).</p>



# Device Fingerprinting

- Unique? App
  - Shows possible device identifiers
  - Developed at University of Erlangen



App 1: SN-Device, start, stop, ...

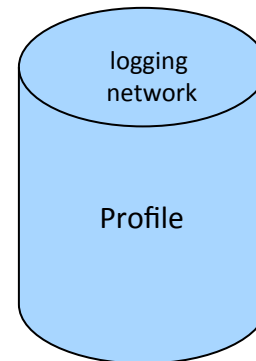
82031M6UV2F, 2012-12-19T16:39:57, 2012-12-19T16:45:33

App 2: SN-Device, start, stop, address book, ...

82031M6UV2F, 2012-12-20T12:19:11, 2012-12-20T12:25:01, data

App 3: SN-Device, start, stop, location info, ...

82031M6UV2F, 2012-12-20T12:21:23, 2012-12-20T12:21:55, data



<http://www.iphone-ticker.de/oh-mein-gott-so-eindeutig-laesst-jedes-iphone-zuordnen-66244/>

< Ergebnis Details Weiter

Die folgende Übersicht zeigt die gesammelten Daten und hebt diejenigen Einträge farblich hervor, die zur Eindeutigkeit ihres Fingerabdrucks beigetragen haben.

FREI ZUGÄNGLICH

Jailbreak installiert Nein

Gerätemodell iPhone6,2

Systemversion 7.1.1

Gerätename iPhone von Nicolas O...

identifierForVendor 9D84A766-CD...

Mobilfunkanbieter Telekom.de

Anbieter erlaubt VOIP Ja

Eingestelltes Land DE

Eingestellte Sprache de

Land ≠ Sprache Nein

Installierte Tastaturen mehr... >

# Canvas Fingerprinting

- Tracking by use of individual device visualization differences within a http canvas element

HTML5 Canvas Fingerprinting — BrowserLeaks.com

www.browserleaks.com/canvas

BrowserLeaks.com

## Client-Side: HTML5 Canvas Fingerprinting

This is a simple Proof-of-Concept that Browser Fingerprinting is possible without any of User-Agent identifiers.

The method is based on the fact that the same HTML5 Canvas element can produce exceptional pixels on a different web browsers, depending on the system on which it was executed.

This happens for several reasons: at the image format level — web browsers uses different image processing engines, export options, compression level, final images may got different hashes even if they are pixel-perfect; at the pixmap level — operating systems use different algorithms and settings for anti-aliasing and sub-pixel rendering. We don't know all the reasons, but we have already collected more than a thousand unique signatures.

Well, let's begin. After the tables we give a brief explanation...

Canvas Support in Your Browser :

Canvas (basic support)	✓ True
Text API for Canvas	✓ True

Database Summary :

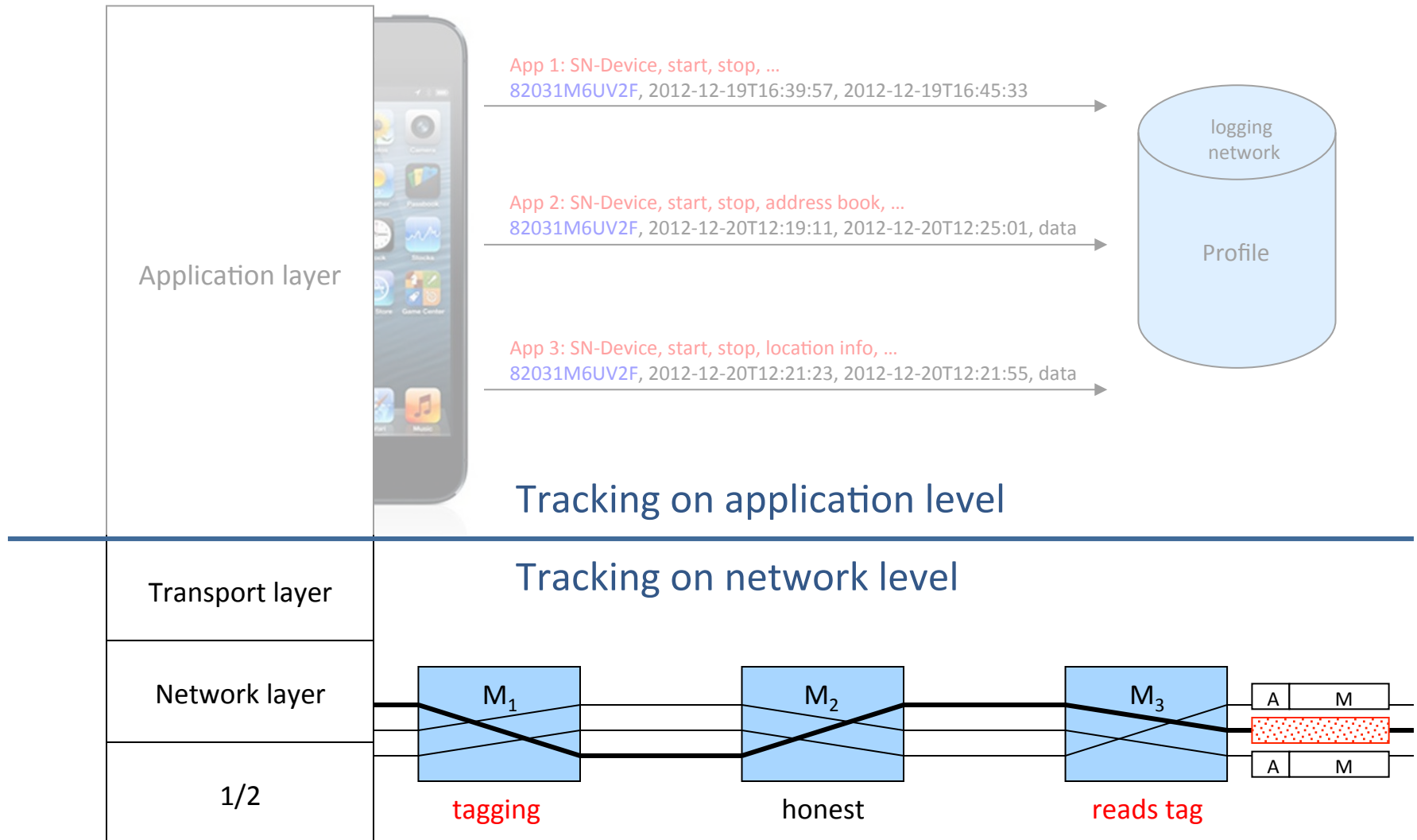
Total Visitors Processed	338737
Total Sets (User-Agents)	22136
Total Groups (Signatures)	1847

Your Fingerprint :

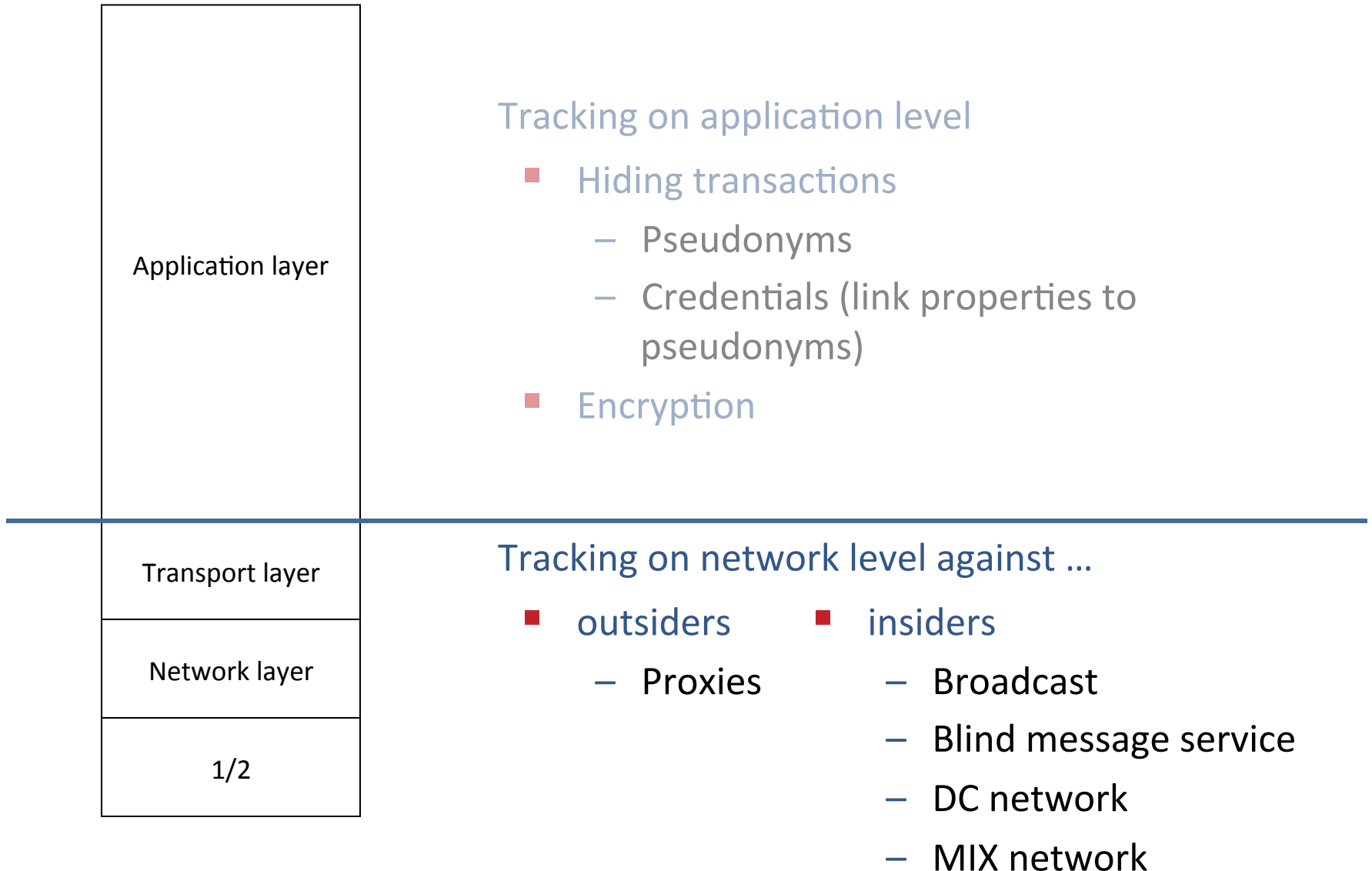
Signature	5505D2C3
Found in DB	✗ False
General Conclusion	<b>Your system fingerprint appears to be unique, yet we don't collect signatures here, just check.</b>

Gunes Acar, Christian Eubank, Steven Englehardt, Marc Juarez, Arvind Narayanan, Claudia Diaz. The Web never forgets: Persistent tracking mechanisms in the wild. CCS 2014

# Anonymity and unobservability and ISO OSI network levels

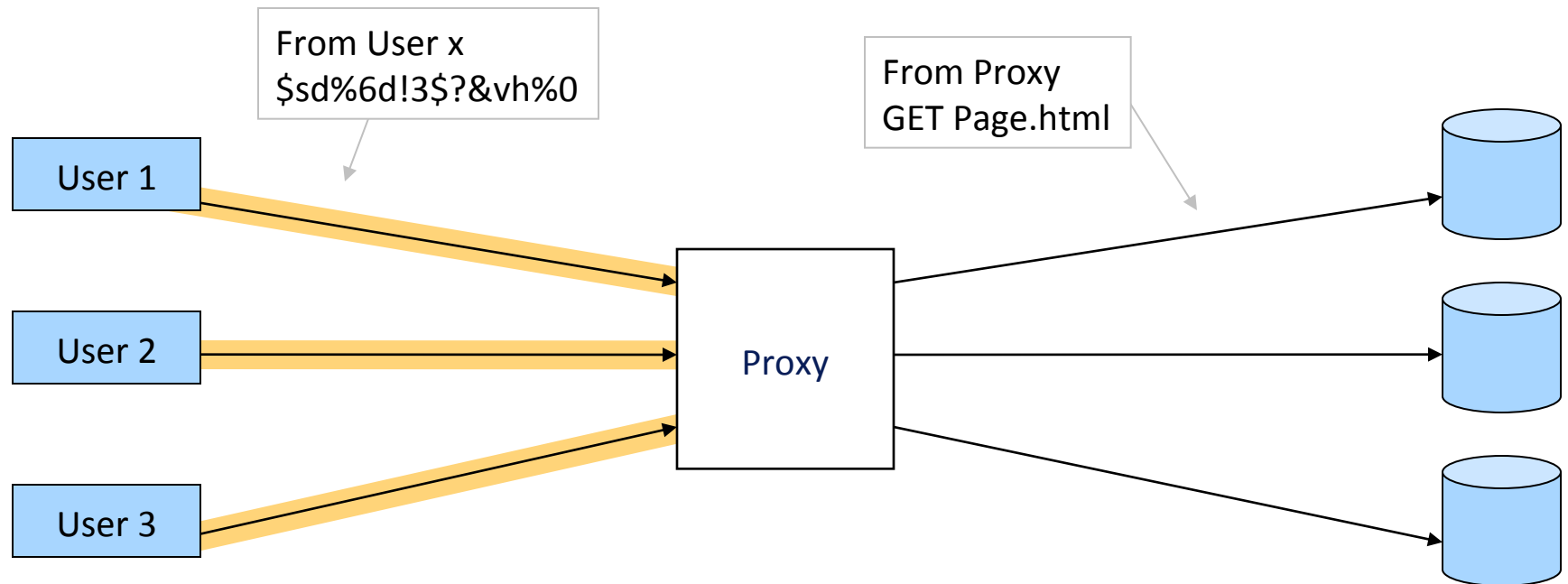


# Anonymity and unobservability and ISO OSI network levels



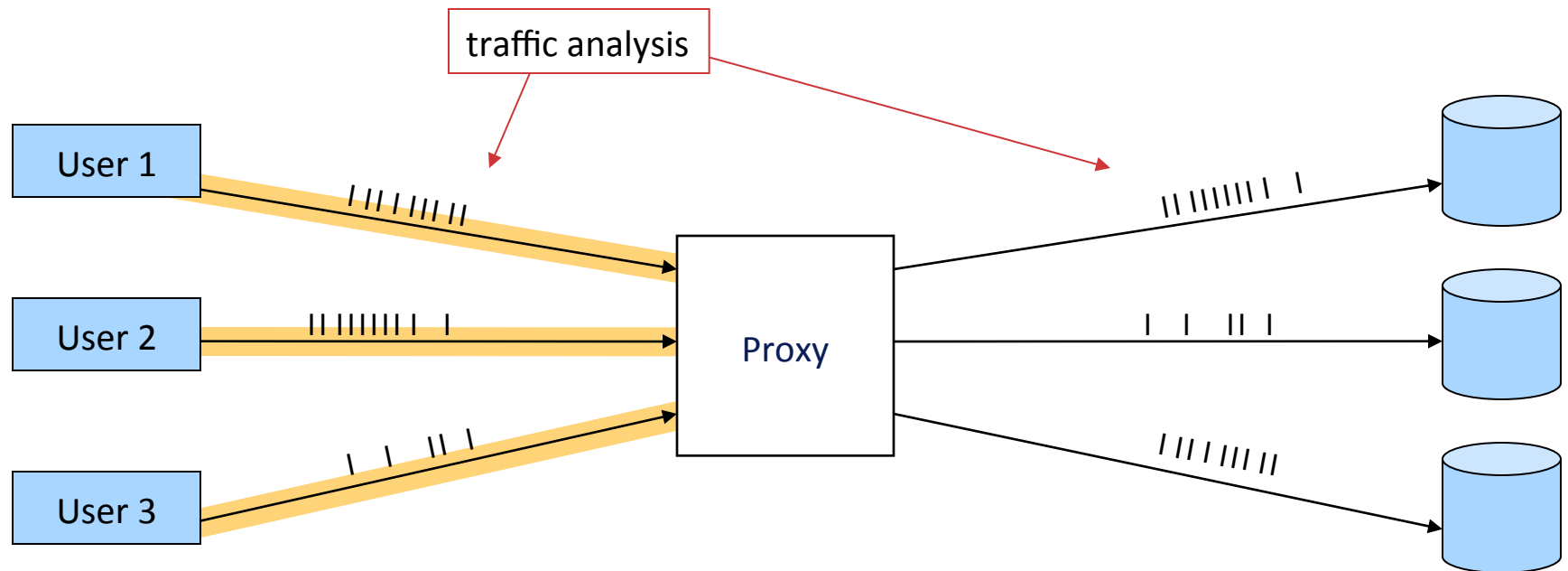
## Proxies: Outsider

- Against weak outsider attacks
  - Use Proxy a mediator:
    - Users need to trust the proxy
    - proxy knows all communication relations
  - Encryption — does not protect from traffic analysis

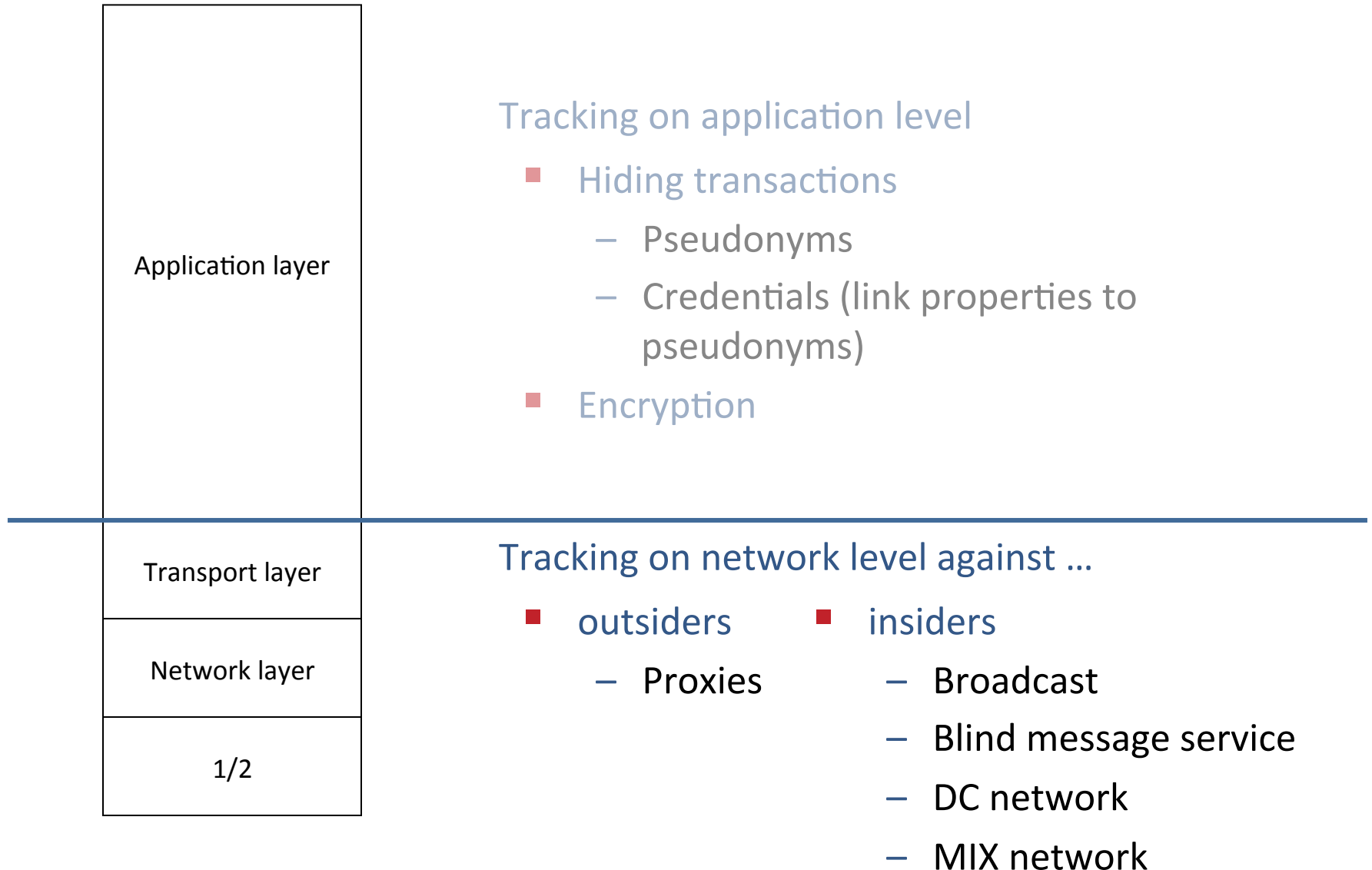


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# Anonymity and unobservability and ISO OSI network levels



# Broadcast

## ■ The past...



- Reading newspapers
- Radio via antenna
- TV via broadcasting channels (cable, antenna)

## ■ Broadcast and implicit addressing (for point-to-point communication)

- Protects the *recipient*
- *All recipients* get all (encrypted) messages
- *Locally* select content from broadcast channel
- Hides who is interested in what



# Broadcast

## ■ Present

- Video on Demand
- Internet radio
- News online

- No privacy!
- No protection?

## • The past ... (broadcast)

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- Radio via antenna
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# Broadcast

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## ■ Present

- Video on Demand
- Internet radio
- News online
  
- No privacy!
- No protection?

## • The past ... (broadcast)

- Reading newspapers
- Radio via antenna
- TV via broadcasting channels (cable, antenna)

## ■ The message is

Keep the broadcast channels alive!


## ■ Addressing

- explicit addresses: Routing
- implicit addresses: Characteristic pattern for receiver station
  - covered: (Public Key) Encryption System
  - open: (Pseudo) Random Number Generator

## ■ Examples

- Paging of connection requests to mobile users
- No storage of location information

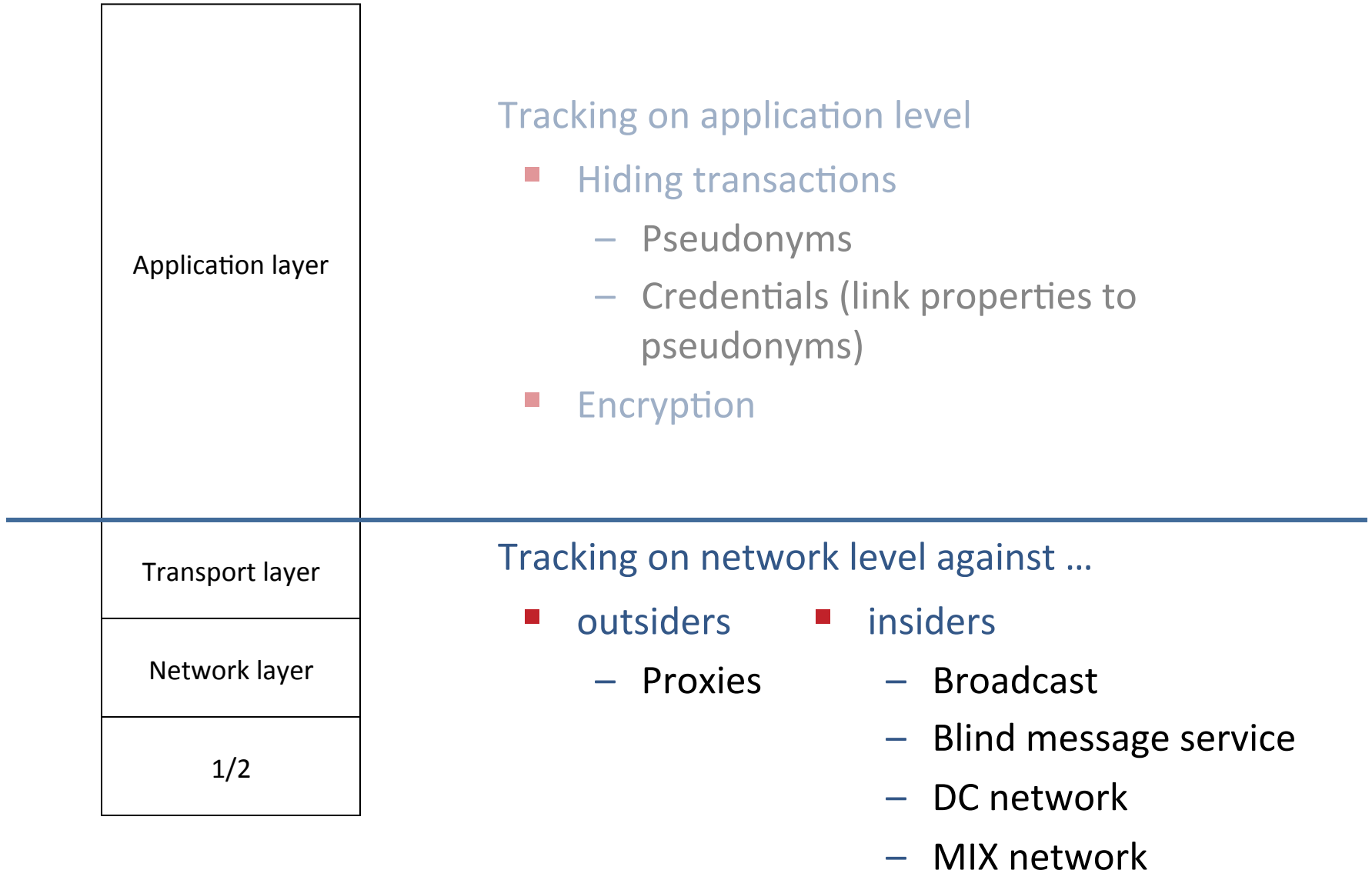
		public address	private address
implicit address	covered	very expensive, use for first contact	expensive
	open	do not used	continually change after first contact



# Implicit Addresses

- First contact: covered implicit address CIA
  - Recipient publishes public encryption key  $c$
  - Sender creates  $CIA := c ( R , S , M )$ 
    - Redundancy  $R$
    - Seed  $S$  of a pseudo-random generator PRG
    - Message  $M$  (optional)
  - Recipient decrypts all received messages with private key  $d$ 
    - Finds correct  $R$  for own messages only
- Following addressing: open implicit address OIA
  - $OIA_{i+1} := PRG ( i , S )$  ( $i = 0,1,2,\dots$ )
    - Sender calculates next OIA
    - encrypts message  $M$  (optional)
    - Sends  $OIA , M$
  - Receiver: Associative memory with valid OIAs to recognize messages

# Anonymity and unobservability and ISO OSI network levels



# Blind-Message-Service: Query

Cooper, Birman, 1995

Client queries for D[2]:

Index = 1234

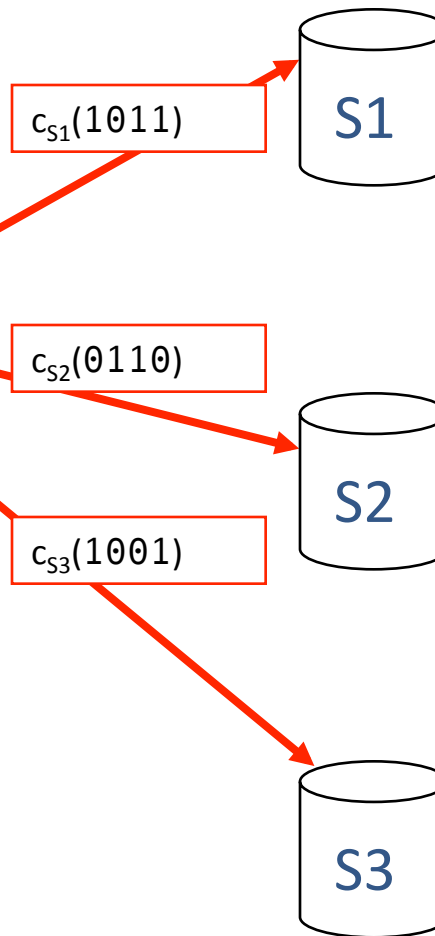
Set vector = 0100

Choose randomly request(S1) = 1011

Choose randomly request(S2) = 0110

Calculate request(S3) = 1001

- Replicated databases of different operators
- Protection goal: Databases gain no information which entry the client is interested in



D[1]: 1101101  
D[2]: 1100110  
D[3]: 0101110  
D[4]: 1010101

D[1]: 1101101  
D[2]: 1100110  
D[3]: 0101110  
D[4]: 1010101

D[1]: 1101101  
D[2]: 1100110  
D[3]: 0101110  
D[4]: 1010101

# Blind-Message-Service: Answer

Cooper, Birman, 1995

Client queries for D[2]:

Index = 1234

Set vector = 0100

Choose randomly request(S1) = 1011

Choose randomly request(S2) = 0110

Calculate (xor) request(S3) = 1001

Answers from

S1: 0010110

S2: 1001000

S3: 0111000

xor of the sums from

S1, S2 and S3 equals to D[2]: 1100110

- Link encryption between client and databases



D[1]: 1101101

D[3]: 0101110

D[4]: 1010101

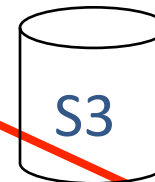
Summe 0010110



D[2]: 1100110

D[3]: 0101110

Summe 1001000



D[1]: 1101101

D[4]: 1010101

Summe 0111000

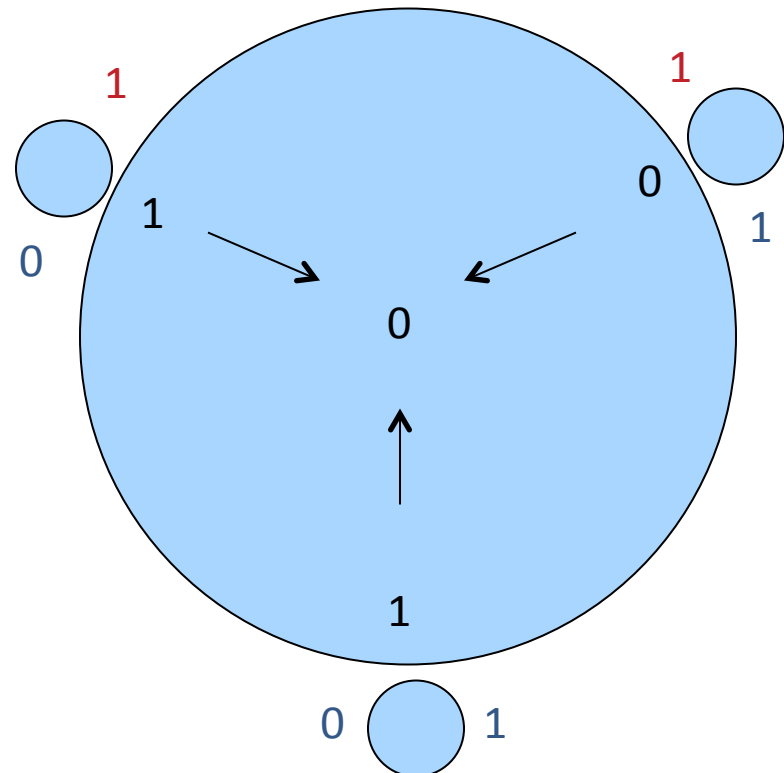
## ■ Everybody

1. Flip a coin with each other
2. Calculate xor of the two bits
3. If paid xor a 1 (negate the result of step 2)
4. Tell your result

## ■ Together

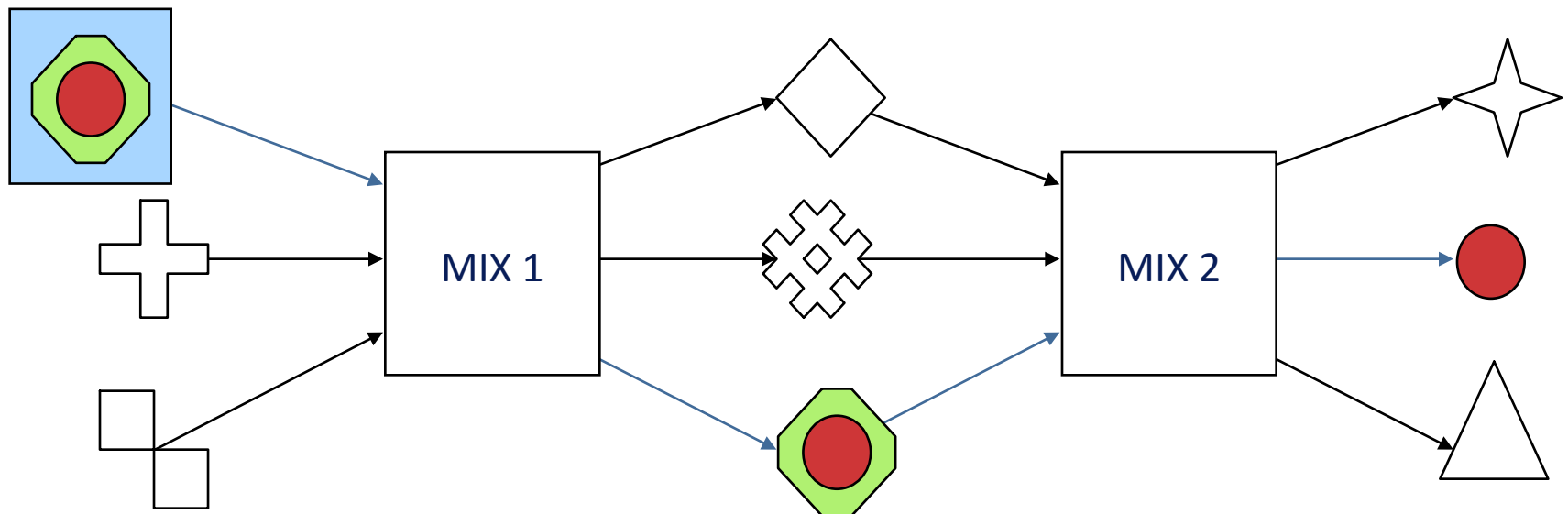
1. Calculate xor of the three (local) results
2. If global result is Zero an external person has paid

Who has paid?



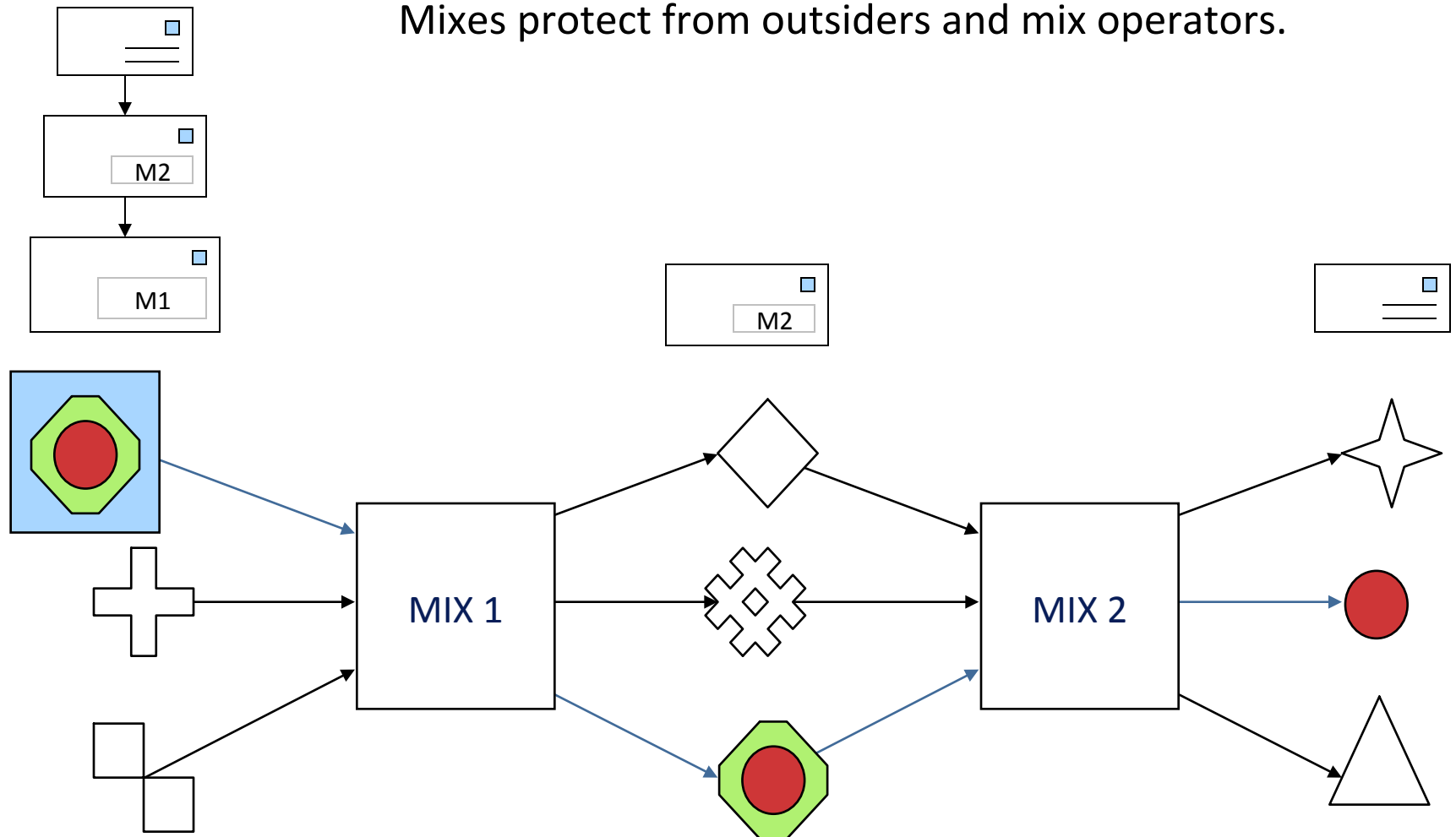


- Basic idea:
  - Sample messages in a batch, change their coding and forward them all at the same point of time but in a different order. All messages have the same length.
  - Use more than one Mix, operated by different operators.
  - At least one Mix should not be corrupt.
- Then: Perfect unlinkability of sender and recipient



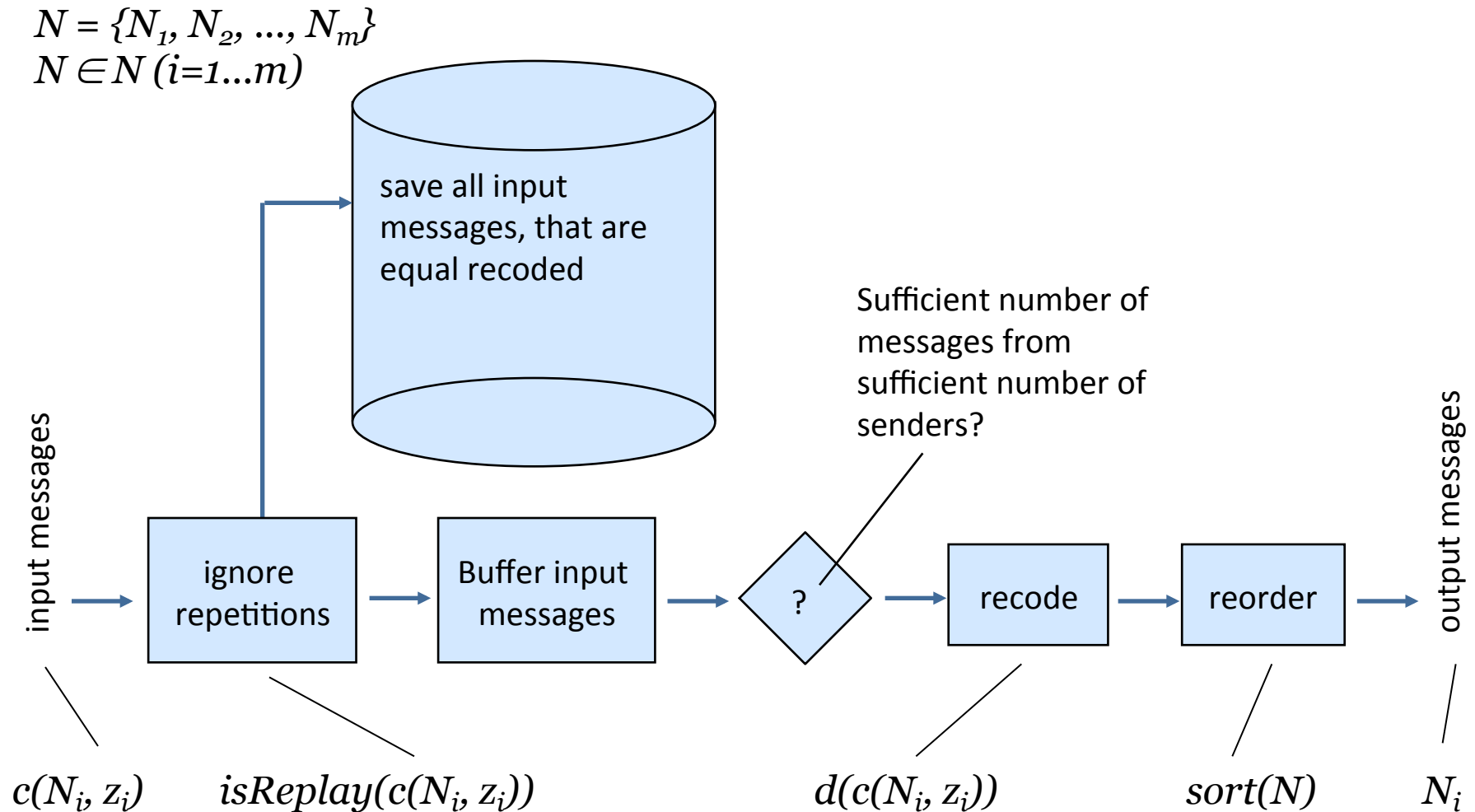
- Perfect unlinkability of sender and recipient

Mixes protect from outsiders and mix operators.



# Block diagram of mix

Chaum, 1981



# Anonymity and unobservability and ISO OSI network levels

## Tracking on application level

- Hiding transactions
  - Pseudonyms
  - Credentials (link properties to pseudonyms)
- Encryption

Application layer

## Tracking on network level against ...

- outsiders
  - Proxies
- insiders
  - Broadcast
  - Blind message service
  - DC network
  - MIX network

Transport layer

Network layer

1/2

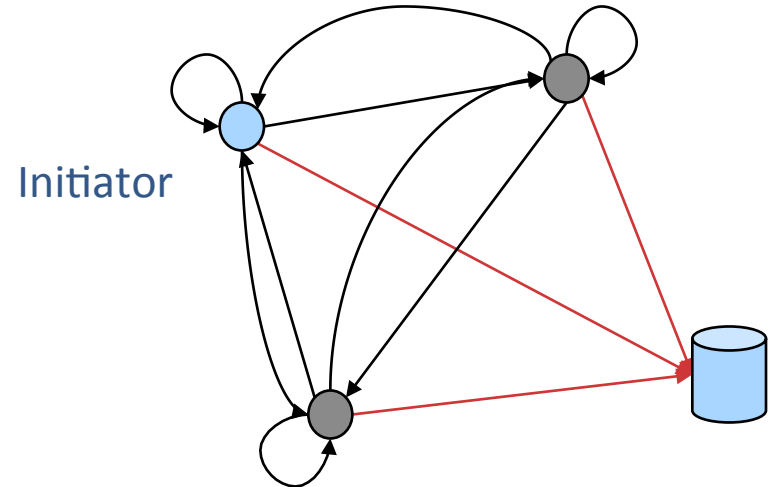
# Timeline of development of Privacy Enhancing Technologies

1978 Public-key encryption  
1981 MIX, Pseudonyms  
1983 Blind signature schemes  
1985 Credentials  
1988 DC network  
1990 Privacy preserving value exchange  
1991 ISDN-Mixes  
1995 Blind message service  
1995 Mixmaster  
1996 MIXes in mobile communications  
1996 Onion Routing  
1997 Crowds Anonymizer  
1998 Stop-and-Go (SG) Mixes  
1999 Zeroknowledge Freedom Anonymizer  
2000 AN.ON/JAP Anonymizer  
2004 TOR

■ Basic concepts  
■ Applications



- Web request is directly sent to the server with a probability  $P$  or alternatively (with  $1-P$ ) to other participants (Jondo)
  - Symmetric encryption connection between the users
- Embedded objects (images etc.) requested by last Jondo
  - Prevent request-bursts
- Security characteristics
  - User can always say, his Jondo received the request for forwarding
- Weaknesses
  - Traffic analysis possible
  - Jondos can read and track contents (problematic for personalized sites)



# Timeline of development

David Chaum (\*1955)

- 1978 Public-key encryption
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Source: Wikipedia

# Timeline of development

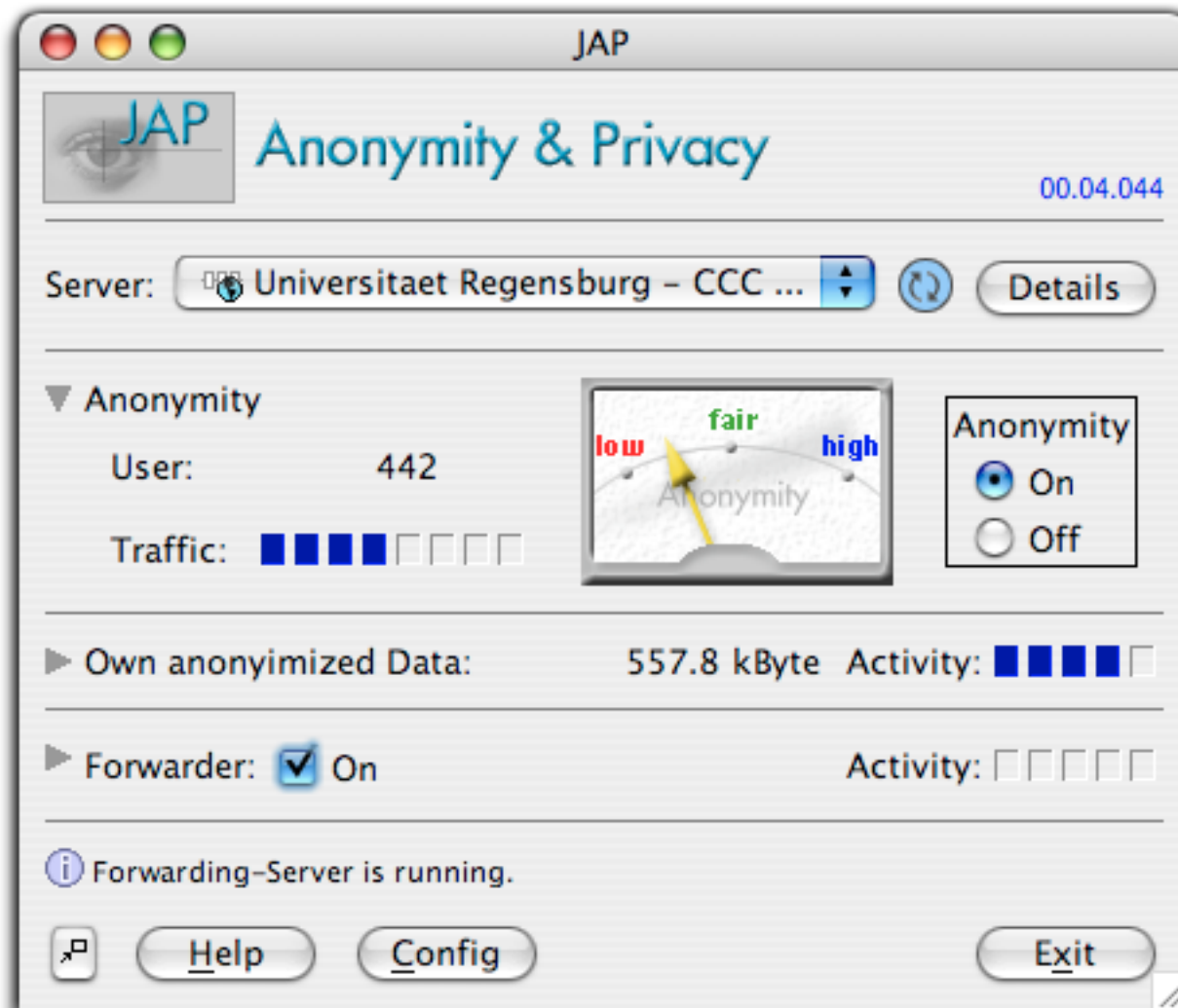
Andreas Pfitzmann (1958-2010)

- 1978 Public-key encryption
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- 2000 AN.ON/JAP Anonymizer**
- 2004 TOR





## AN.ON/JAP anonymizer



For free at  
[www.anon-online.de](http://www.anon-online.de)

First test version  
has been launched  
in October 2000

Full service has  
been running since  
February 2001

# AN.ON/JAP anonymizer



Bundesministerium  
für Wirtschaft und Arbeit



Mix based solution  
for anonymous  
Internet access

OpenSource

>10.000 users

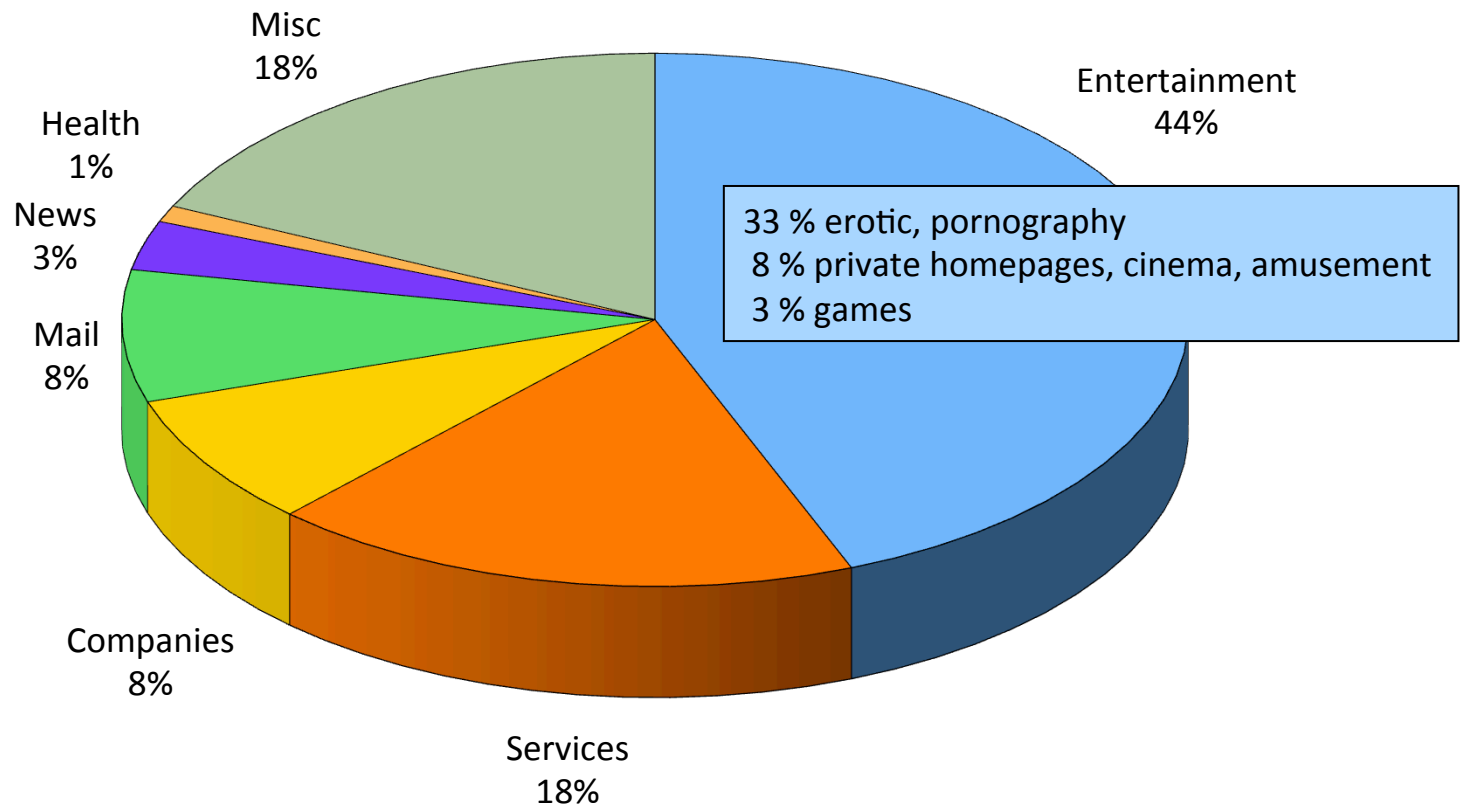
>6 TByte per month

[www.anon-online.de](http://www.anon-online.de)

**Sponsor:** BMWA, **Partners:** TU Dresden, Unabhängiges Landeszentrum für Datenschutz Schleswig-Holstein, FU Berlin, HU Berlin, Universität Regensburg, Medizinische Universität Lübeck, Chaos Computer Club, Ulmer Akademie für Datenschutz und IT-Sicherheit, RWTH Aachen, New York University

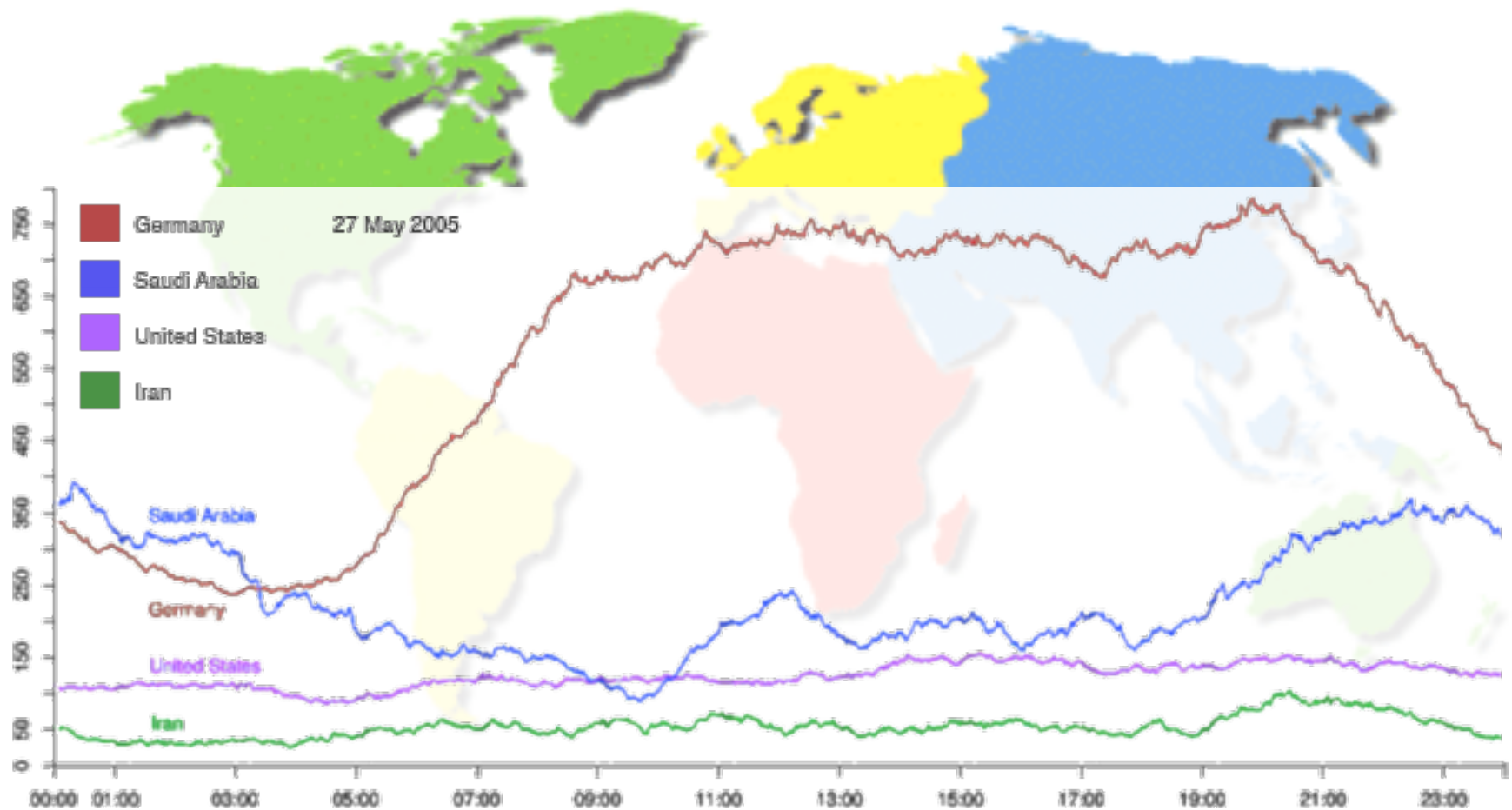
## Anonymized content

- 150 requests randomly picked from millions of requests of June 2005



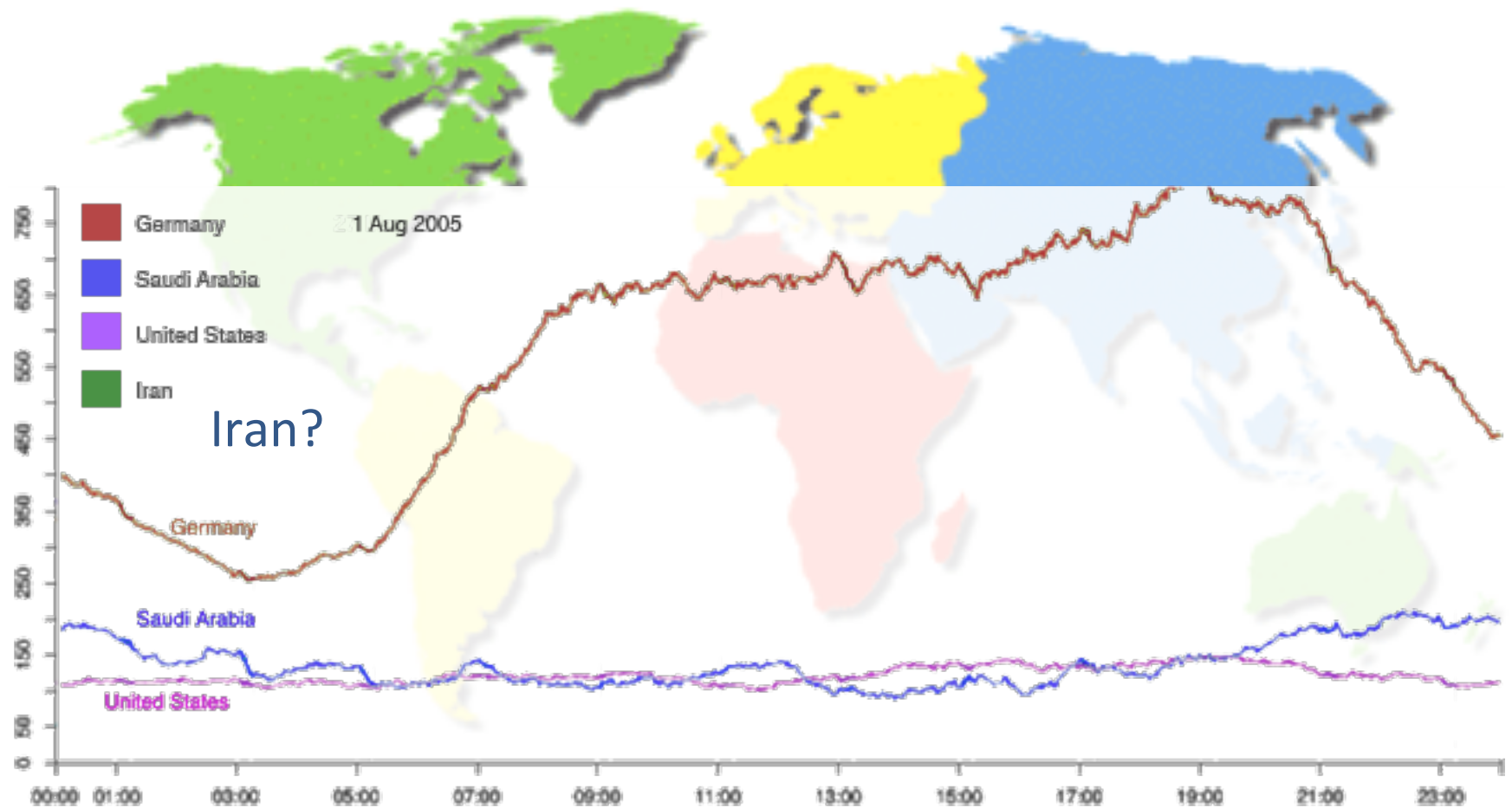
## Regions of users

### ■ Dayline of 27 May 2005

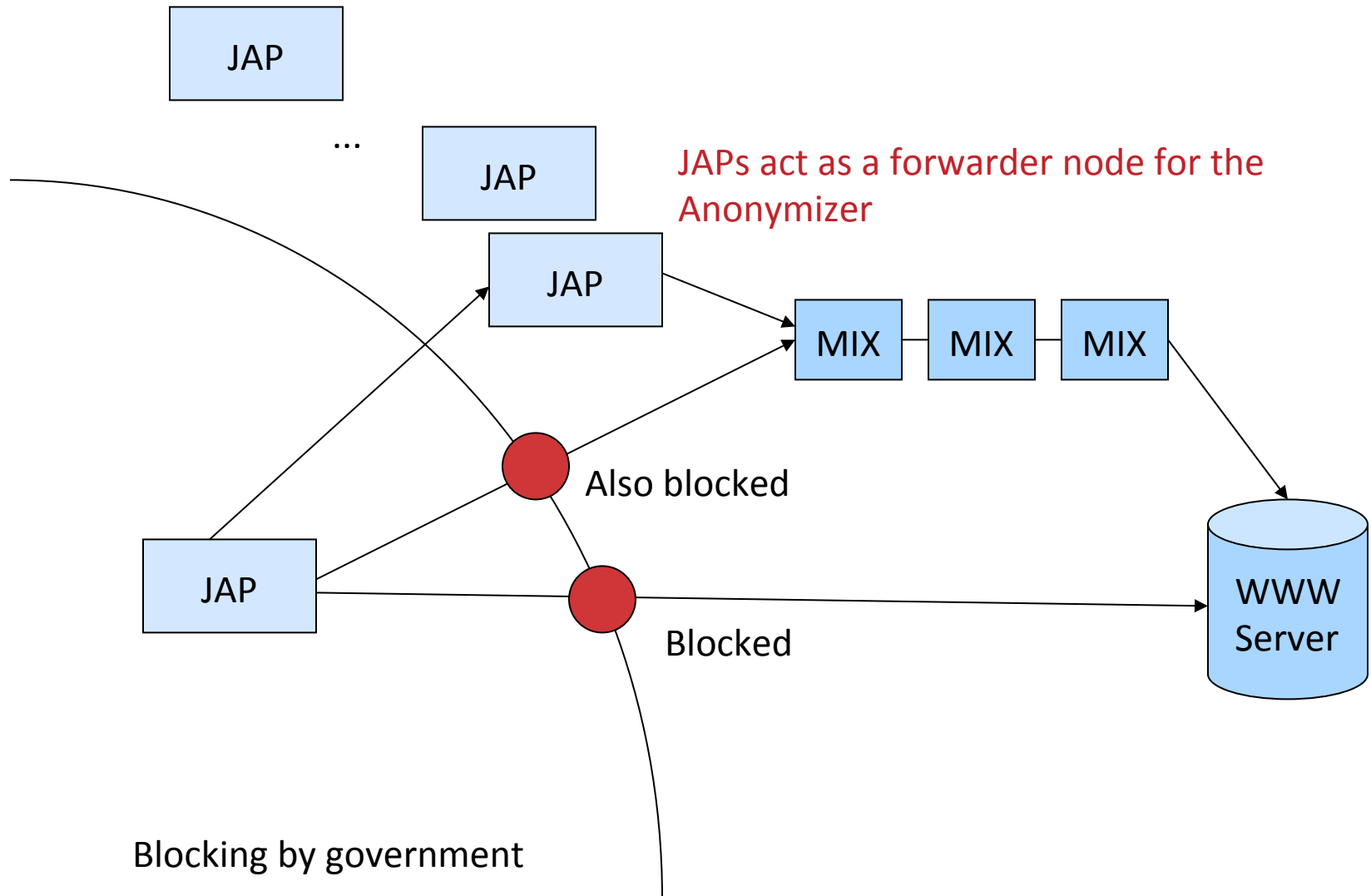


## Regions of users

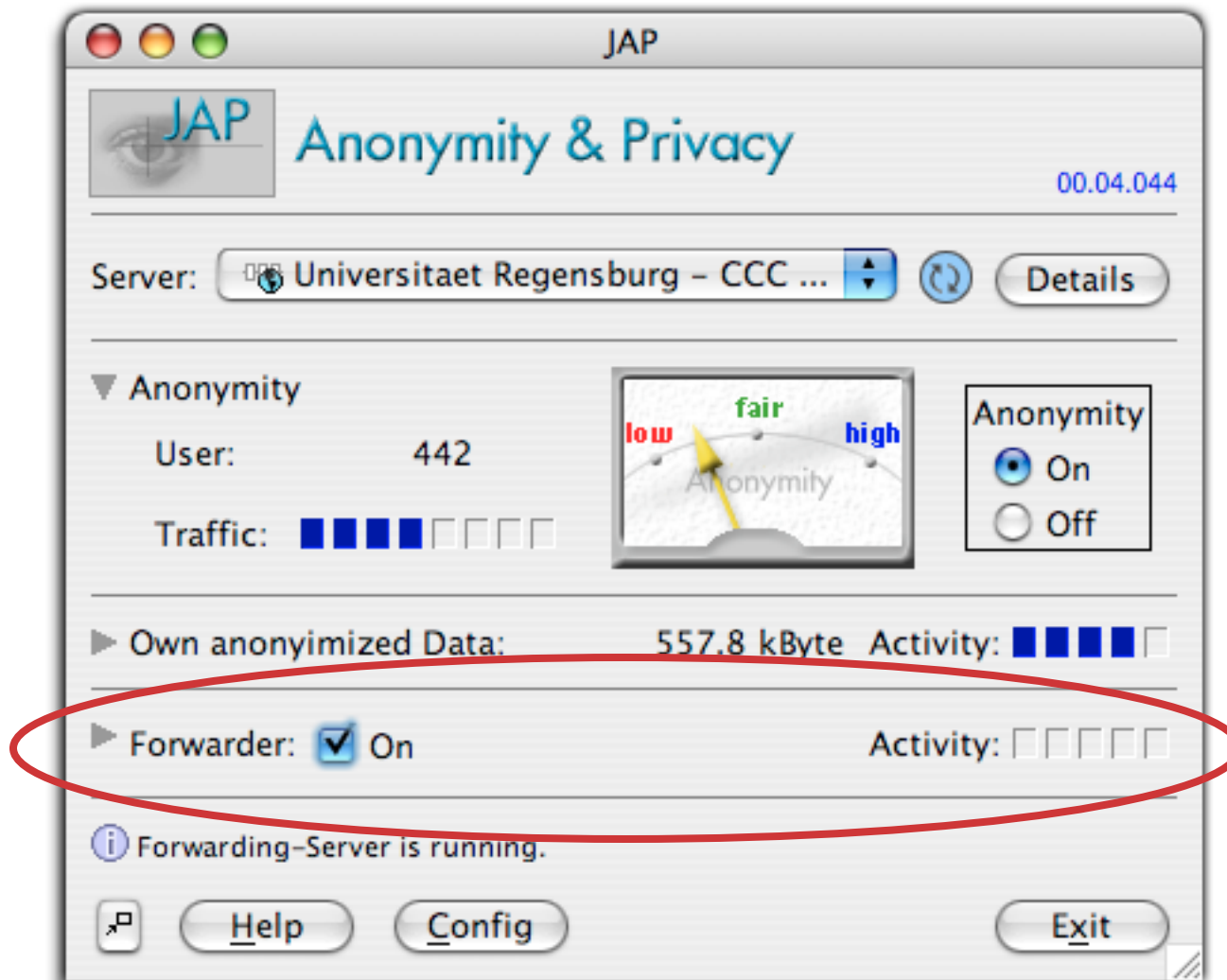
### ■ Dayline of 1 Aug 2005



## Censor-free Internet access



## Censor-free Internet access

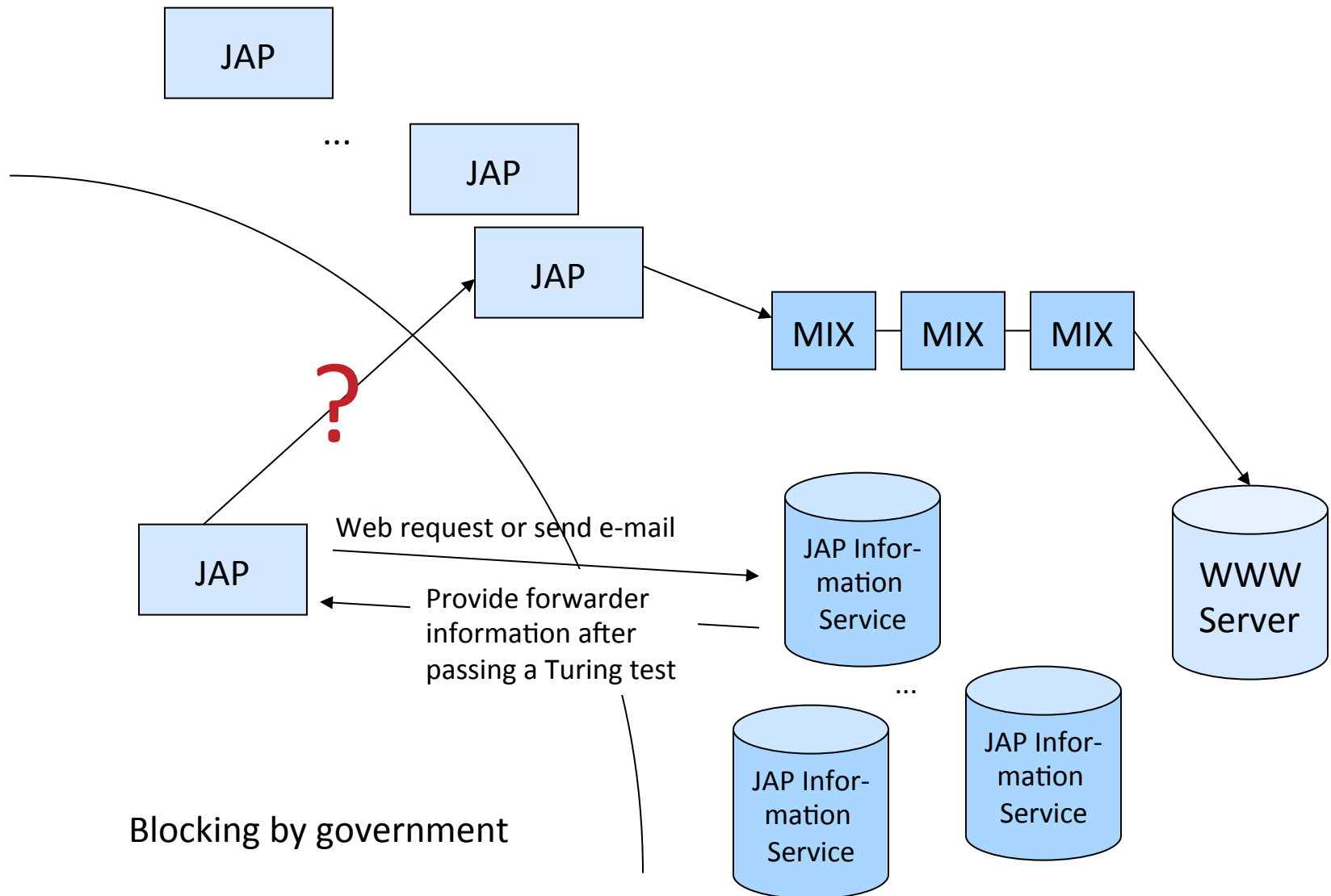


JAP users can share their bandwidth with blocked JAP users

Requests are anonymized through the Mix network

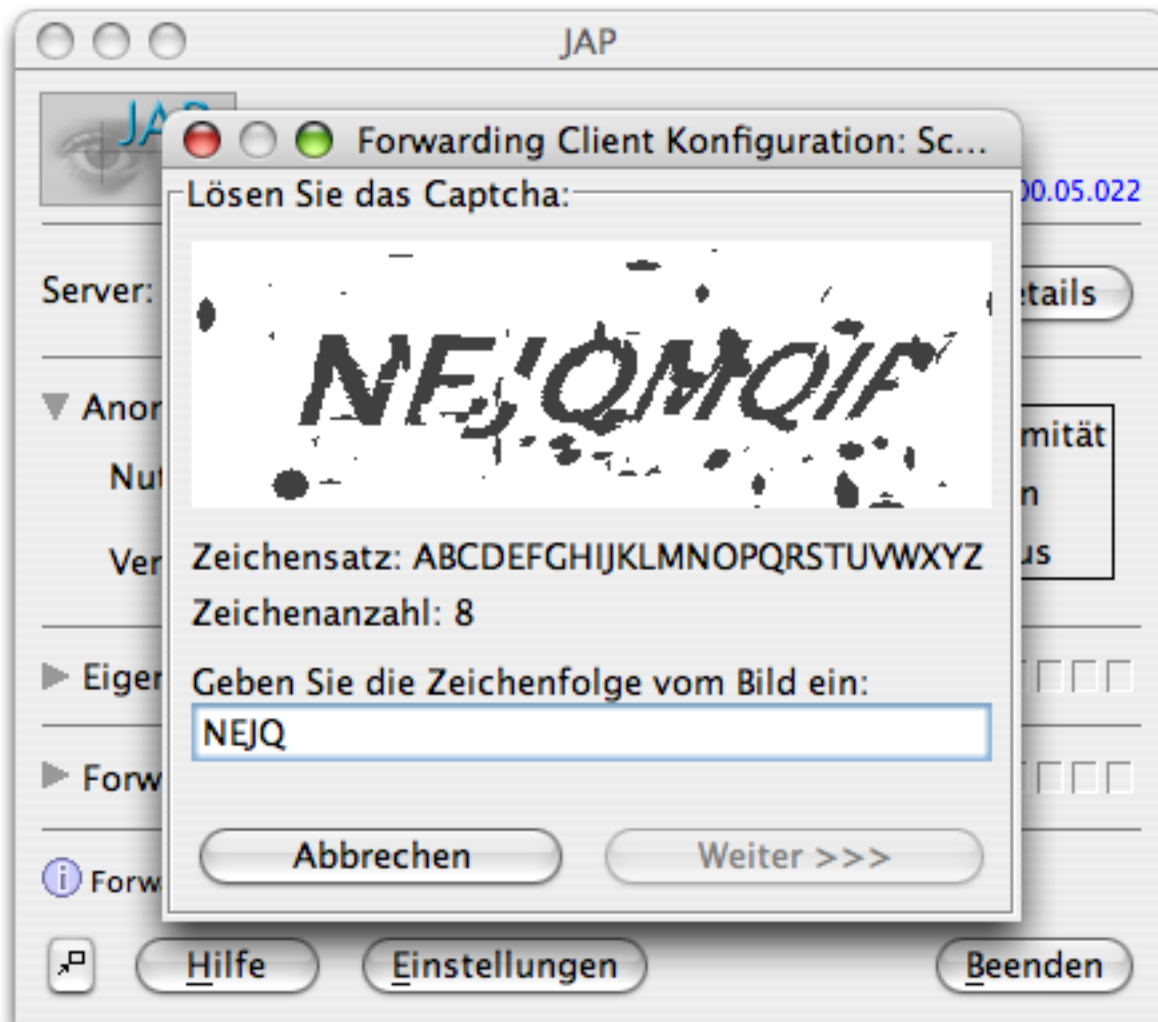
Forwarders gain no information about contents of forwarded requests

## 48





## Censor-free Internet access



InfoService is sending the IP number of one forwarder after passing a Turing test

# Challenges and Problems

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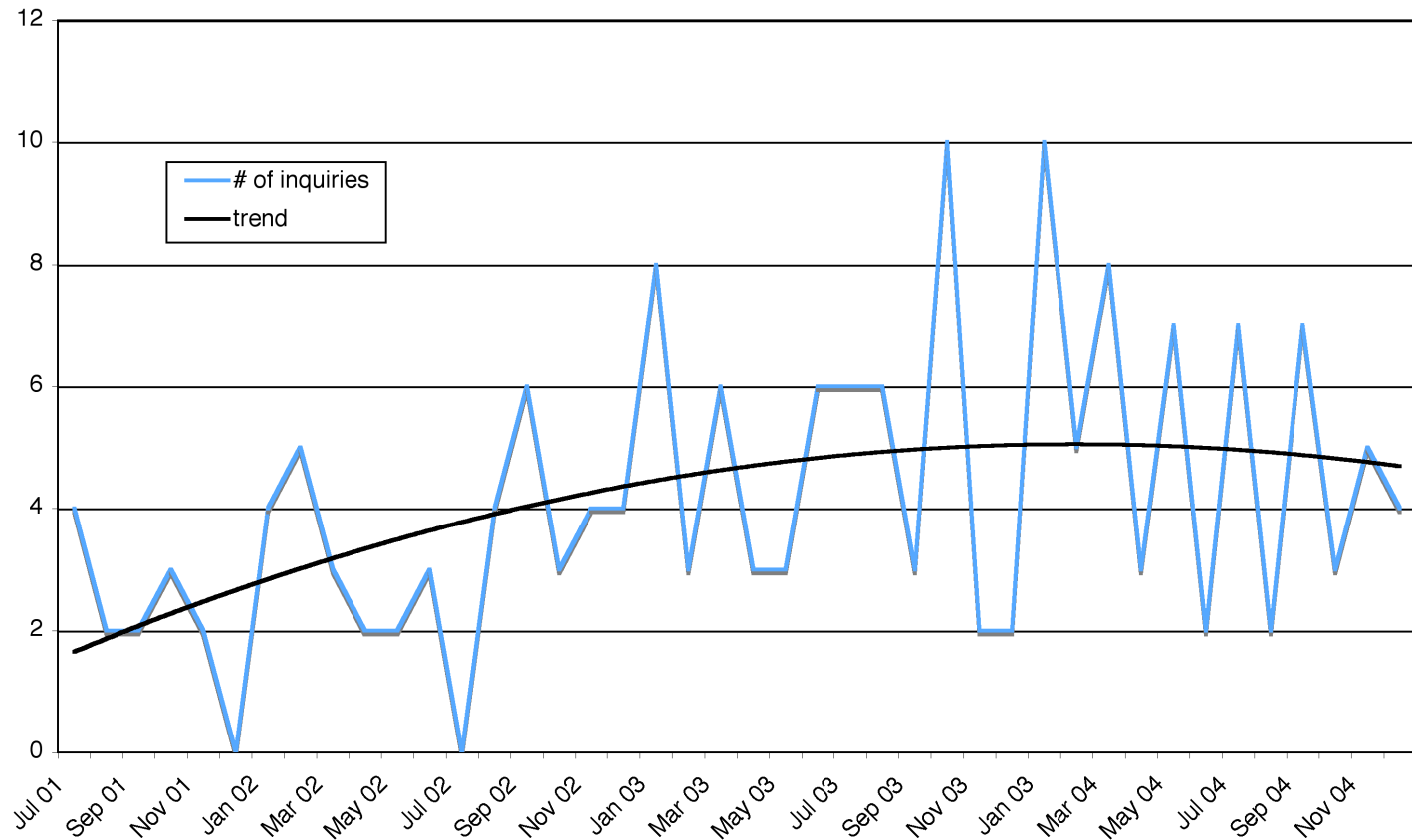
- Blocking possible – censorship resistance
- Criminal misuse – data retention?
- Correlation attacks still possible – improved algorithms needed
- Traffic overload – lightweight anonymity



# Misuse

## ■ JAP project (2000-2010)

- Avg. 4-5 inquiries per month by law enforcement agencies and private persons



# Misuse

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- JAP project (2000-2010)
  - Avg. 4-5 inquiries per month by law enforcement agencies and private persons
  - > 6 Terabytes per month of anonymized data
  
- Typical inquiry
  - Date and time of access, IP address anonymizing service
  - Inquiry: Identification request (name, address) for user behind that IP address
    - Anonymizer is misunderstood as an Internet Service Provider (ISP)

# Misuse

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- Typical crimes committed by use of JAP (suspicion)
  - credit card fraud,
  - computer fraud,
  - sending malicious code to vulnerable web servers,
  - insult,
  - defamation,
  - death thread,
  - access to child pornography
  
- Observation
  - While the traffic anonymized by the system increased over the time the number of inquiries did not

# Challenges and Problems

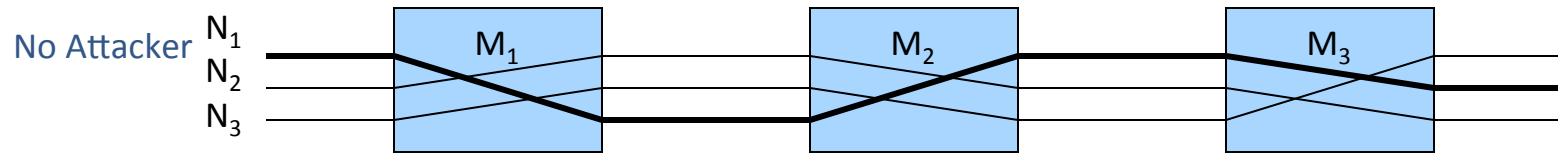
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- Blocking possible – censorship resistance
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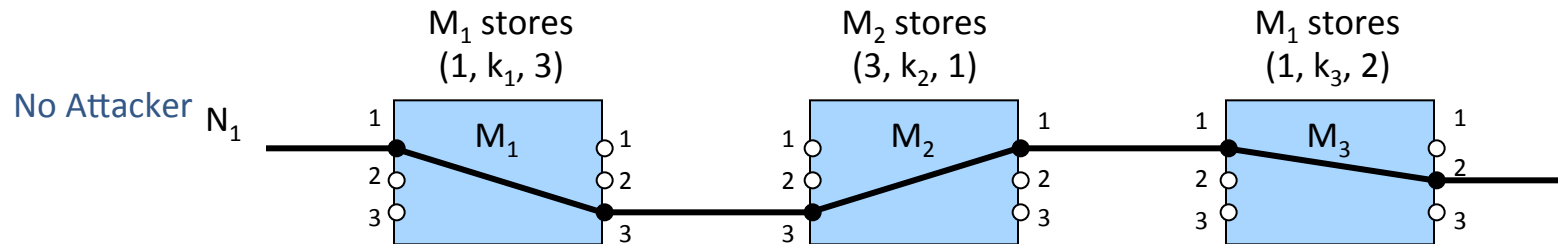


# Tagging attack on anonymous channels Raymond, 2000 (Wei Dai, 1999)

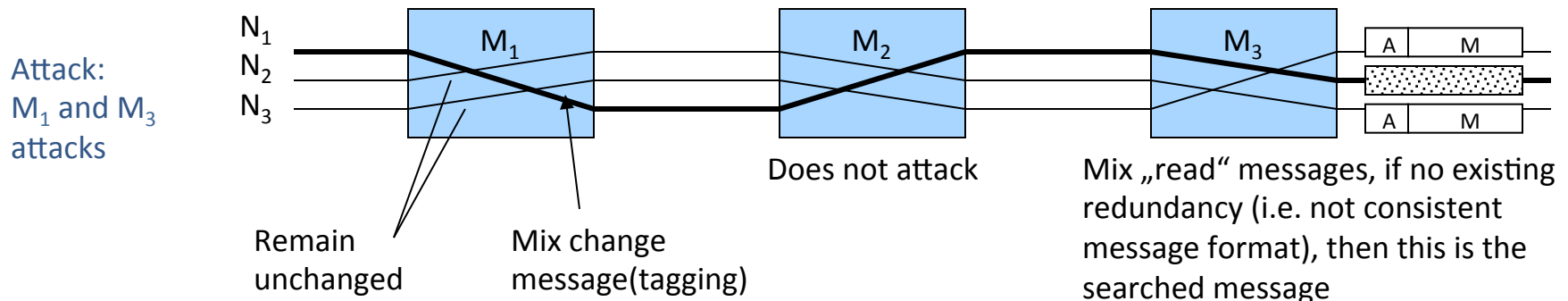
Phase 1: Asymm. Channel setup message:  $N_1 = c_1(k_1, c_2(k_2, c_3(k_3)))$



Leads to storage of I/O-allocation in each mix, e.g. for  $N_1$ :

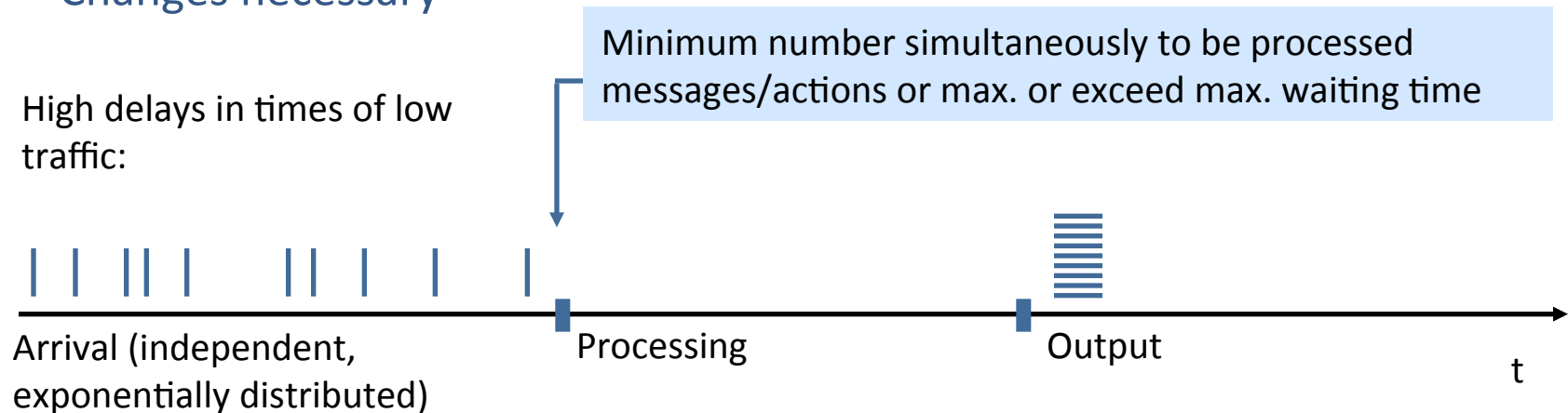


Phase 2: Symm. Messages:  $k_1(k_2(k_3(A_i, M_i)))$



# Real-time communication and mixes

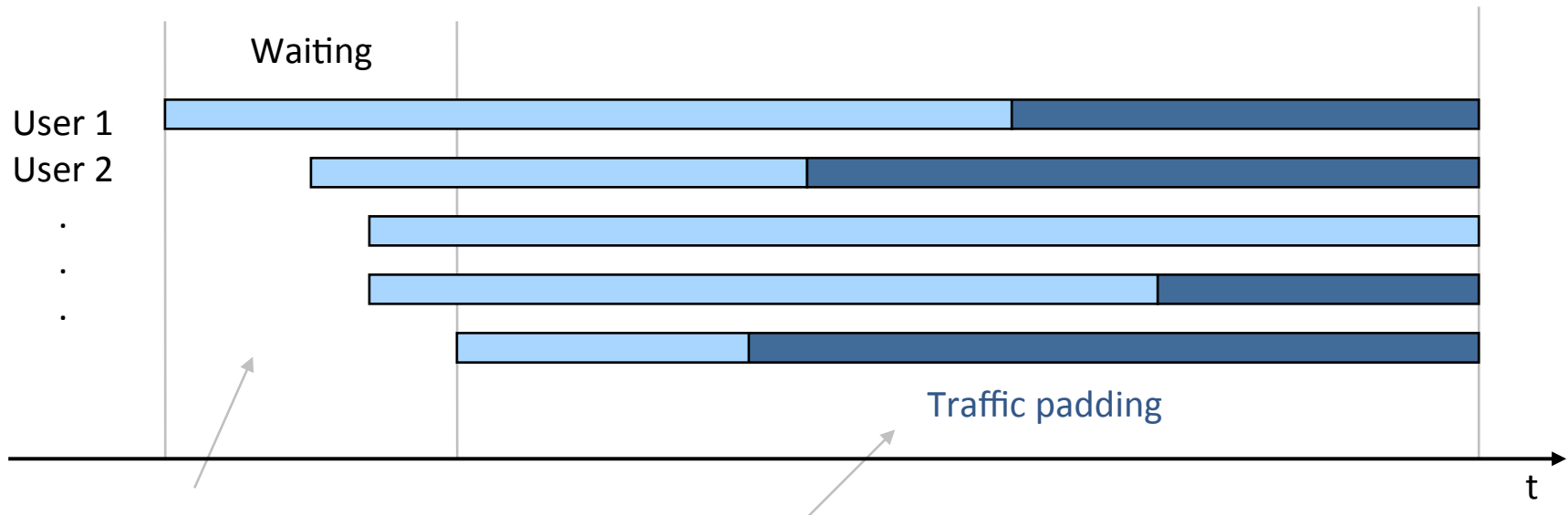
- Mixes are well suited for non-real-time services:
  - E-Mail
- Modifications are necessary for real-time communication
  - Collecting messages leads to strong delays, because most of the time a mix is waiting for other messages
  - Messages lengths and communication time vary greatly at connection-oriented services
- Changes necessary





# Traffic padding

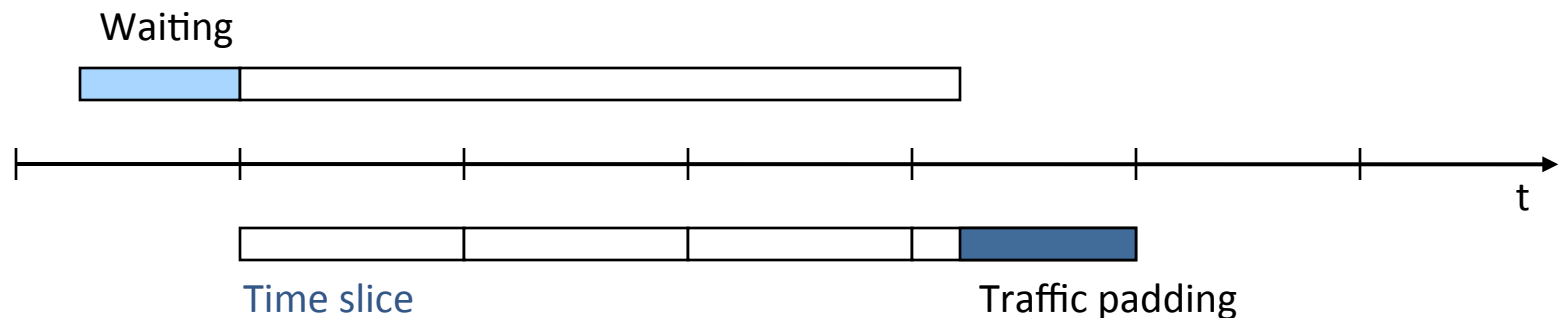
- Objective: Hide, when to start and end a communication
- Problem: Nobody knows, when the last user wants to terminate his communication



1. Users have to wait until enough users want to communicate (creation of the anonymity group)  
Example: 5 users
2. End of communication, but users have to send random data until the last user has finished his connection
3. Problem: Nobody knows when the last user wants to end his communication – because nobody can distinguish real traffic from traffic padding

# Disassemble communication in time-/volume slices

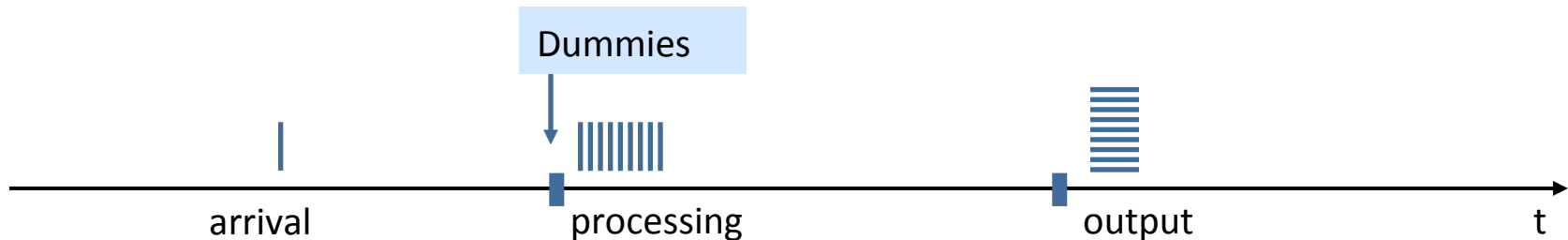
- Time slices (Pfitzmann et. al. 1989)
  - Unobservability within the group of all messages of a time slice
  - Extended communication links are made up of multiple time slices
  - Time slices are not linkable for attacker



- Volume slice (Federrath et. al. 2000)
  - adaptive adjustment of the disc size, depending on the current traffic situation
  - Minimize the overhead

# Dummy traffic

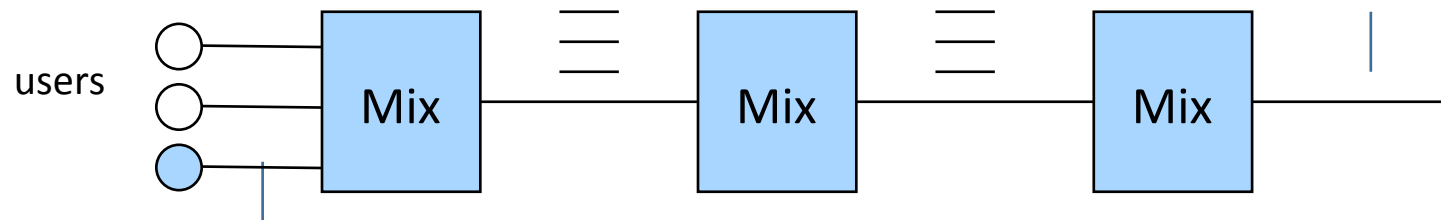
- Def.: Dummy traffic. A user sends data continuously. If user has no (encrypted) messages to send, send random numbers, which can not be distinguished from real encrypted messages.
  - Goal: artificially increase traffic load in low traffic situations, to increase anonymity group



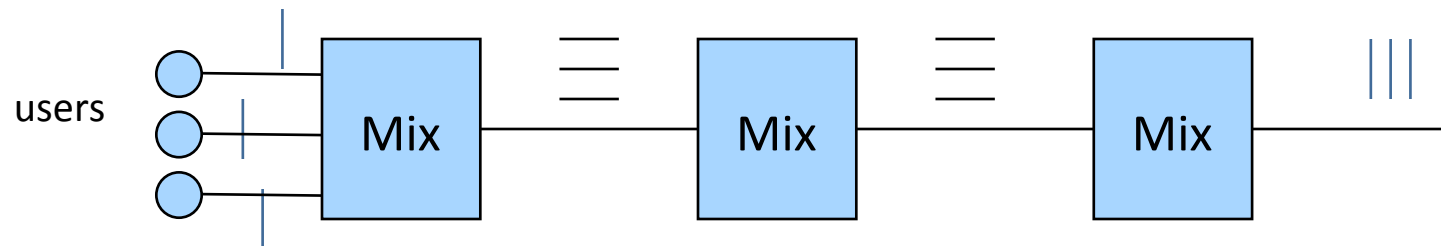
- Alternatives to dummy traffic:
  - Wait, until more messages arrive (lead to further delays)
  - Accept, that anonymity group remains small
  - User who have nothing to send, send meaningless messages

## Dummy traffic

- Dummy traffic only between mixes is not sufficient (First-Hop-Last-Hop-Attack)



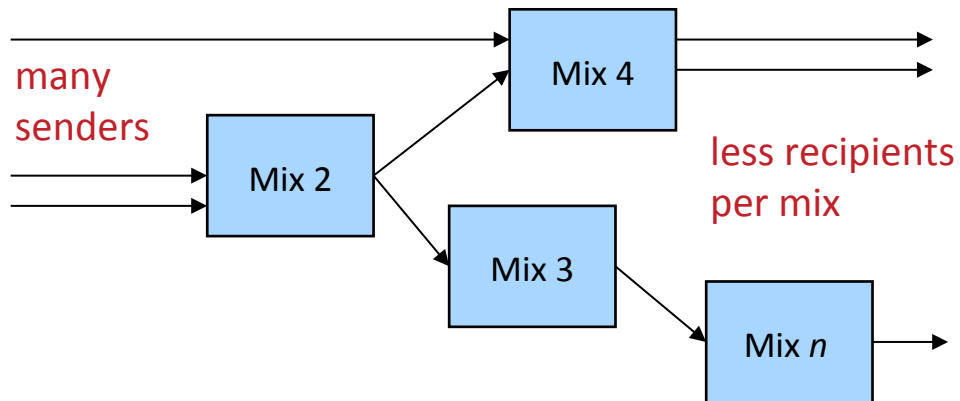
- Dummy traffic must be generated end-to-end



# Random mix sequence vs. fixed mix cascade

## random mix sequence

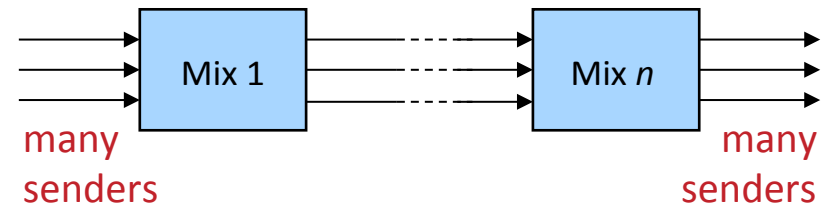
User or system selects mix sequence



- variable recipients per mix
- less recipients per route

## fixed mix cascade

Operator selects mix sequence



- constant nr of routes
- constant nr of users per route
- nr of users spread over nr of cascades

## Problem with long term monitoring

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### ■ Example

- A user shows a very constant online-offline behaviour (e.g. Online from 20:00-22:00 daily)
- During this time, he requests certain contents regularly (web pages, his e-mail account)
- A large number of other users is also active at this time.

### ■ How long does it take to chain the user actions?

- depends on the group size and the user behaviour

# Intersection attack

## ■ Attacker gets to know by traffic analysis:

- At t1 messages from 3 senders A,B,C to 3 recipients S,T,U
- At t2 messages von 3 senders C,D,E an 3 recipients T,V,W

- t1:  $\{A,B,C\} \rightarrow \{S,T,U\}$
- t2:  $\{C,D,E\} \rightarrow \{T,V,W\}$

- $X \rightarrow Y$ : A certain participant from set X is communicating with a certain participant of set Y. X and Y are anonymity groups.

## ■ Intersection attack:

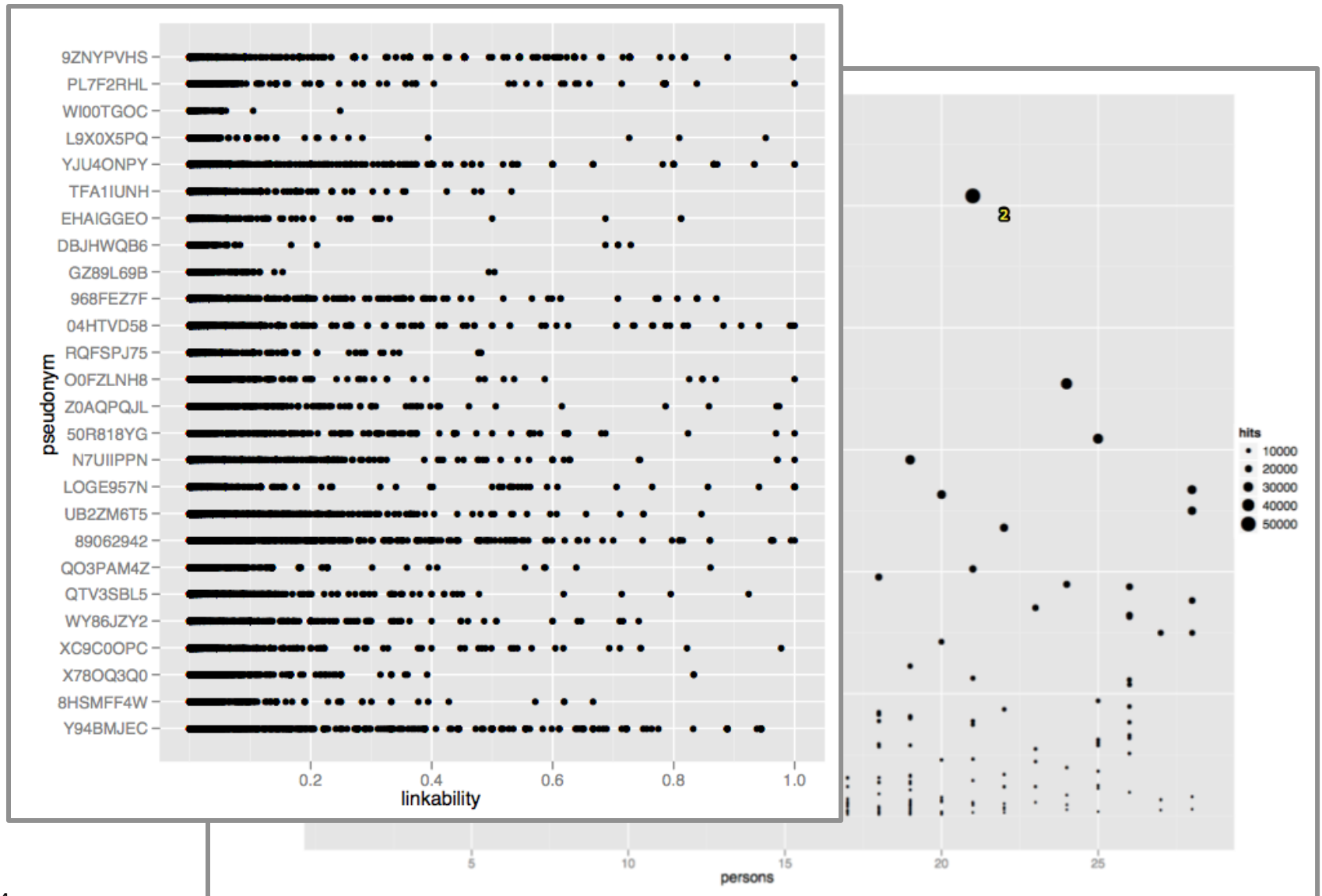
- $\{A,B,C\} \cap \{C,D,E\} \rightarrow \{S,T,U\} \cap \{T,V,W\} = \{C\} \rightarrow \{T\}$

## ■ Interpretation:

- Attack leads to reduced anonymity set  $\{C,T\}$
- T attacks; T learns that C is the sender Sender of the received message

# Website and DNS fingerprinting

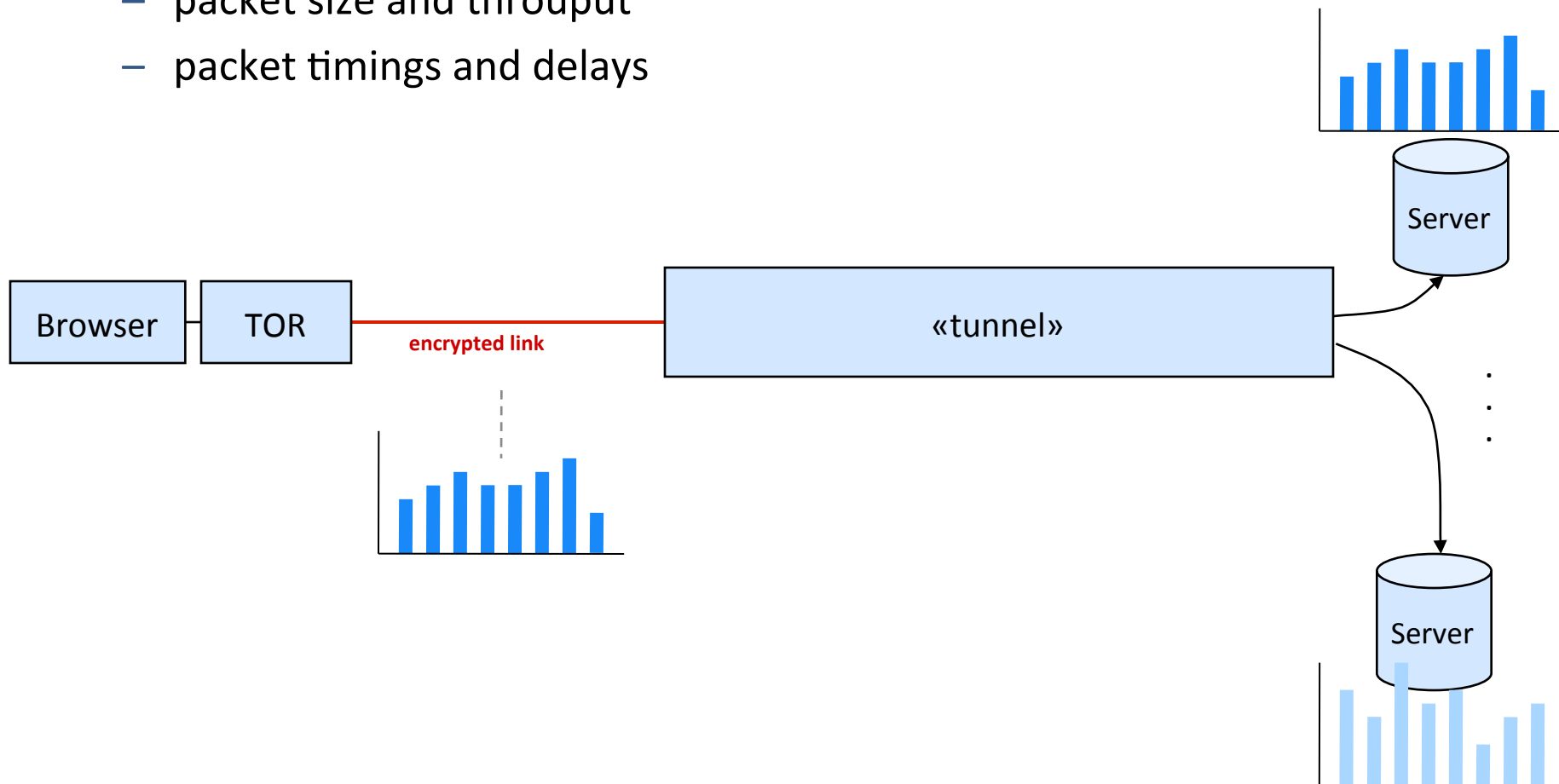
Gerber, 2009





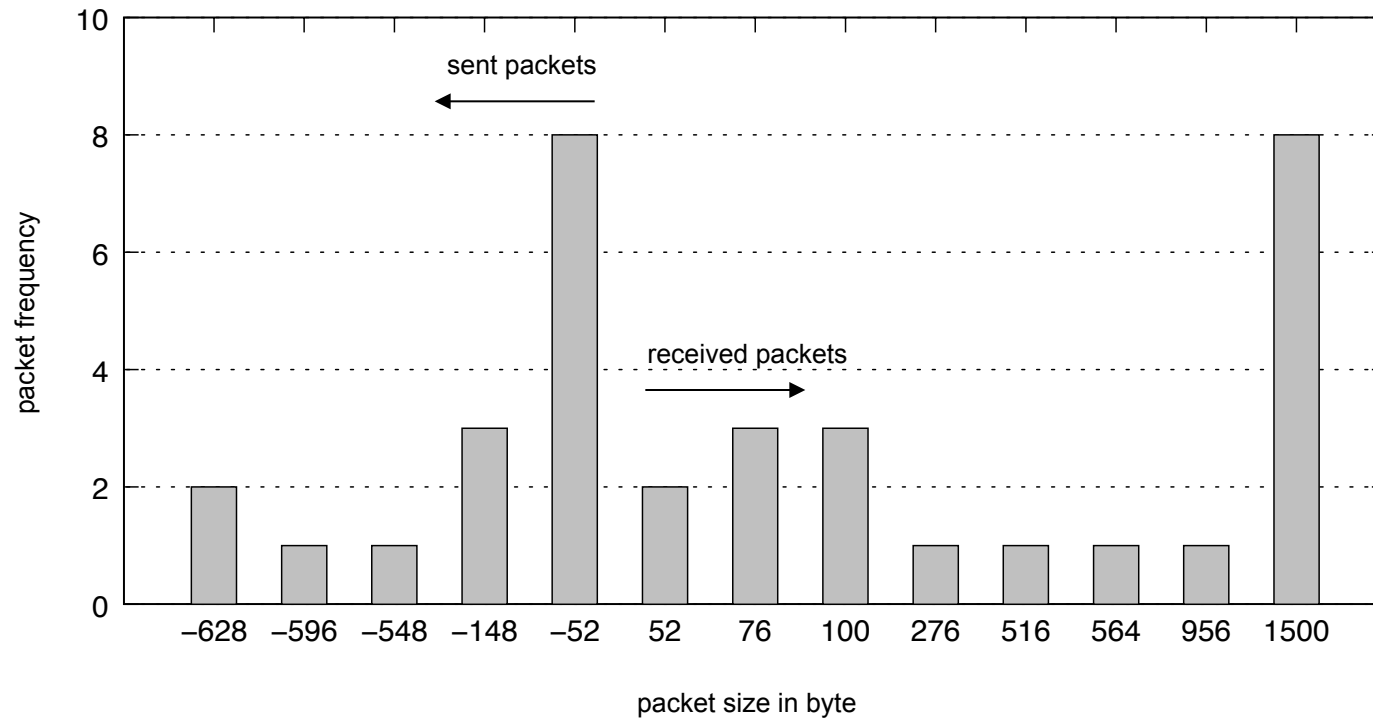
# Traffic analysis by packet fingerprinting

- Characteristic properties of packets allow tracking
  - Probabilities and frequencies of packets or connection
  - packet size and throuput
  - packet timings and delays



# Traffic analysis by packet fingerprinting

## ■ Example of a characteristic frequency of IP packets



## ■ Protection level gained by Privacy Enhancing Technologies

- small: SSH tunnel and VPNs; detection rate 90-97% of connections
- moderate: Tor anonymizers; detection rate < 20% of connections

# Challenges and Problems

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- Blocking possible – censorship resistance
- Criminal misuse – data retention?
- Correlation attacks still possible – improved algorithms needed
- Traffic overload – lightweight anonymity



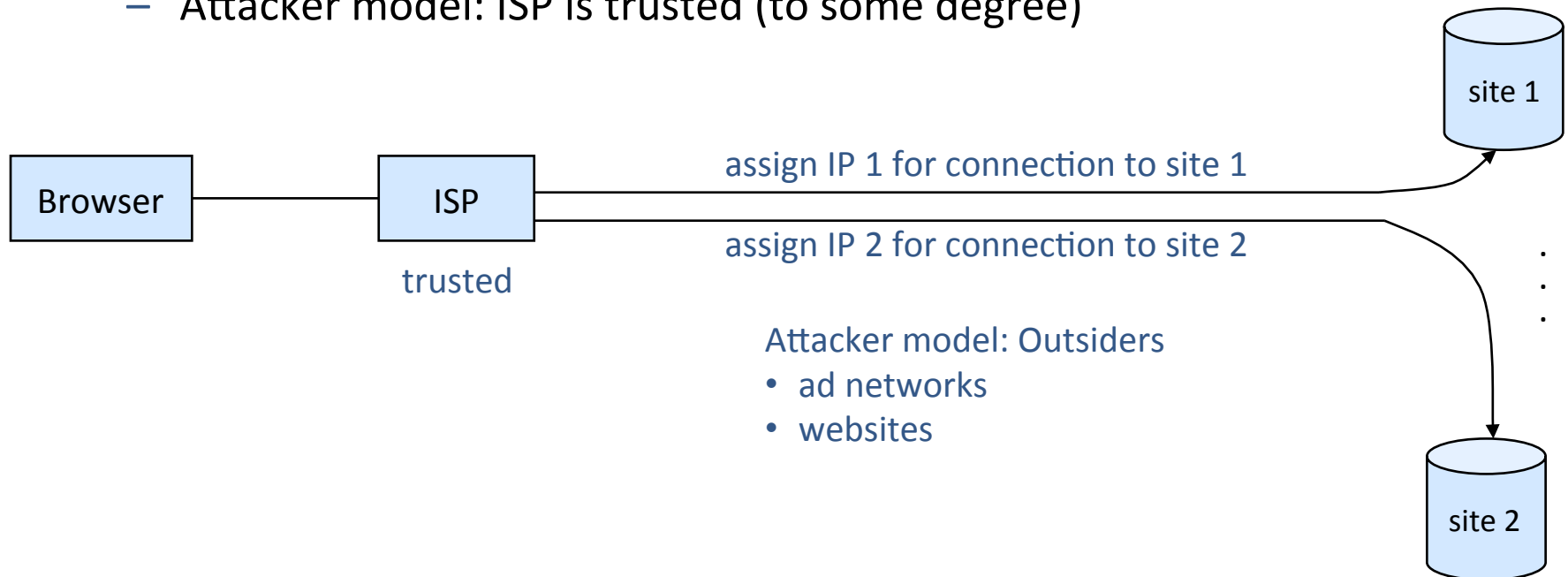
# IPv6 traffic pseudonymization

## ■ Lightweight anonymity

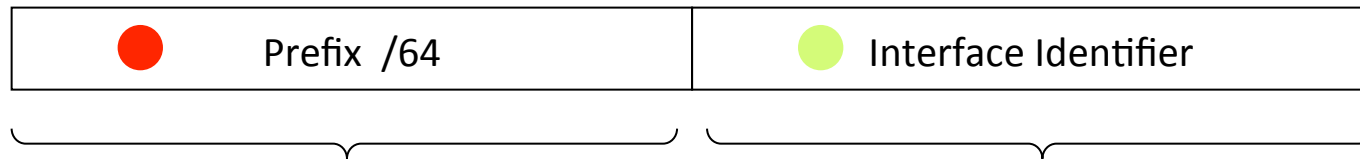
- If unlinkability of actions is sufficient (against ad networks and websites), ISPs can offer anonymity with a new approach to IP address assignment.

## ■ Approach

- Delegating «anonymization» to the Internet Service Provider (ISP)
- Less effort for users, no special (TOR or mix-based) router needed
- Attacker model: ISP is trusted (to some degree)



IPv6 Address = 128 Bit = 16 Byte



## Prefix Alteration Strategies:

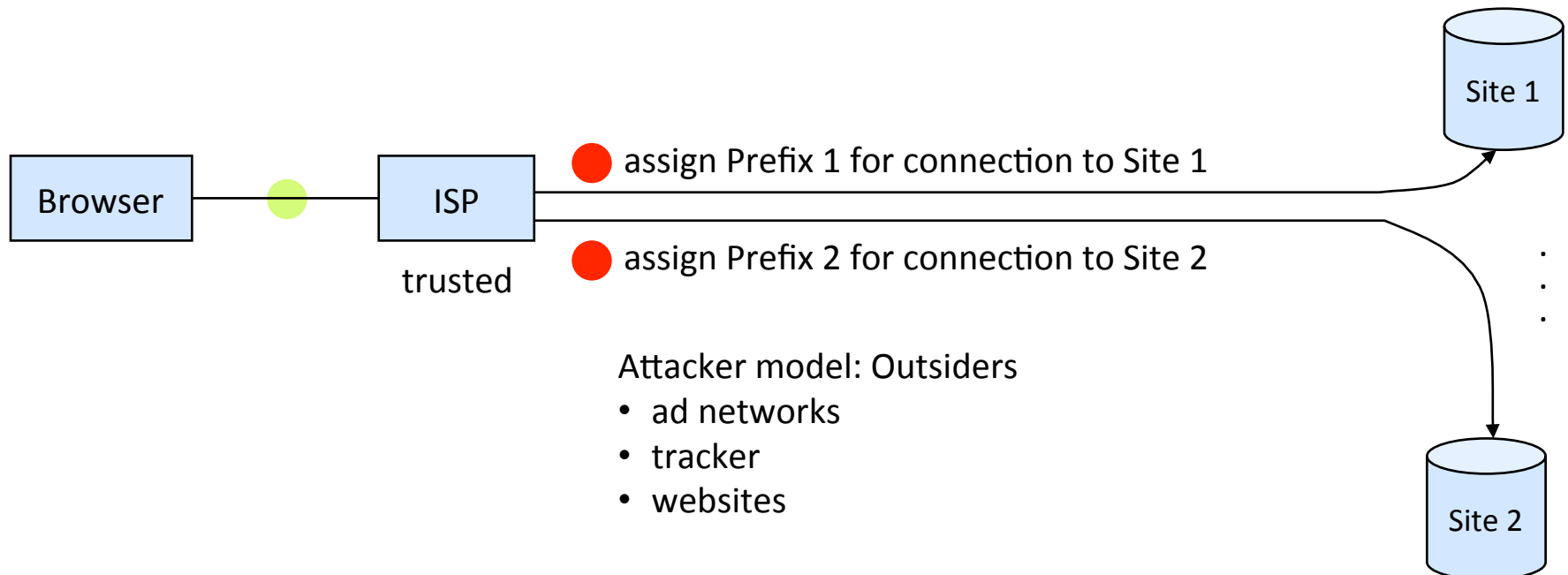
- Prefix Hopping
- Prefix Bouquets
- Prefix Sharing

## Privacy Extensions

RFC 4941 (RFC 3041)

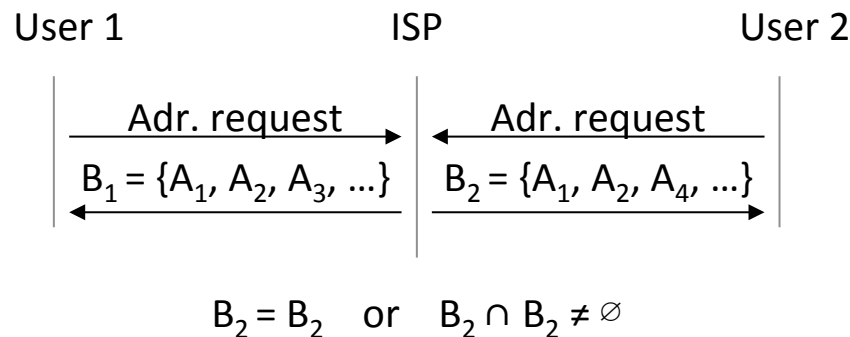
relevant in the Local Area Network only

NATify before routing outside

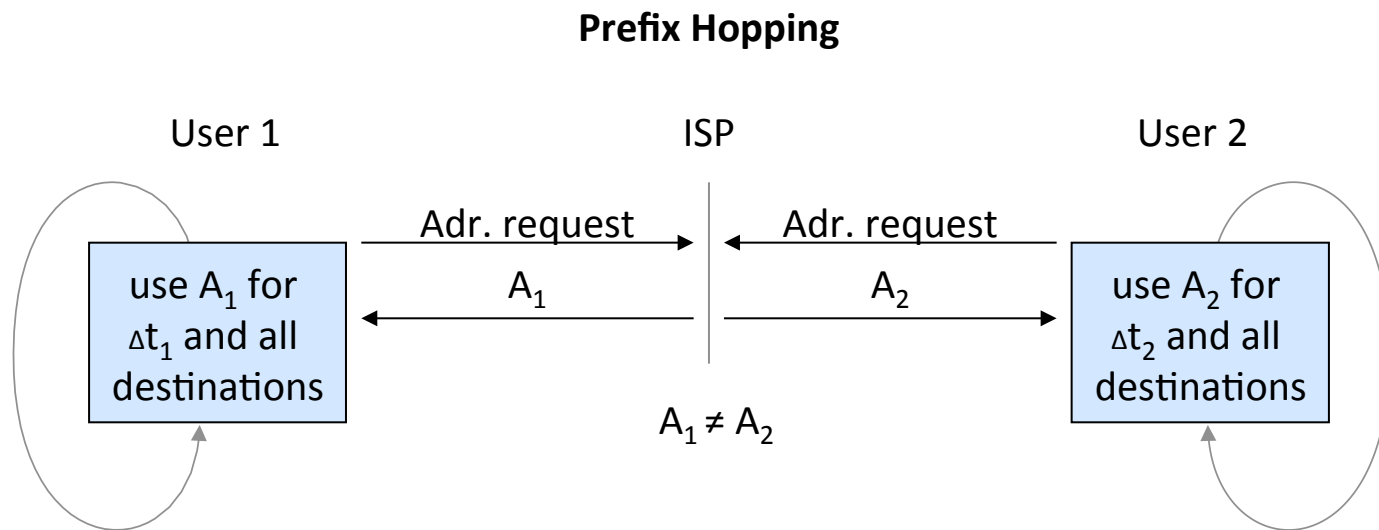


- Prefix Sharing: One IP address (or prefix) is shared among multiple users at a given point in time
  - customers using the same IP address (or prefix) form an anonymity group
  - trackers cannot distinguish customers based on their IP address anymore

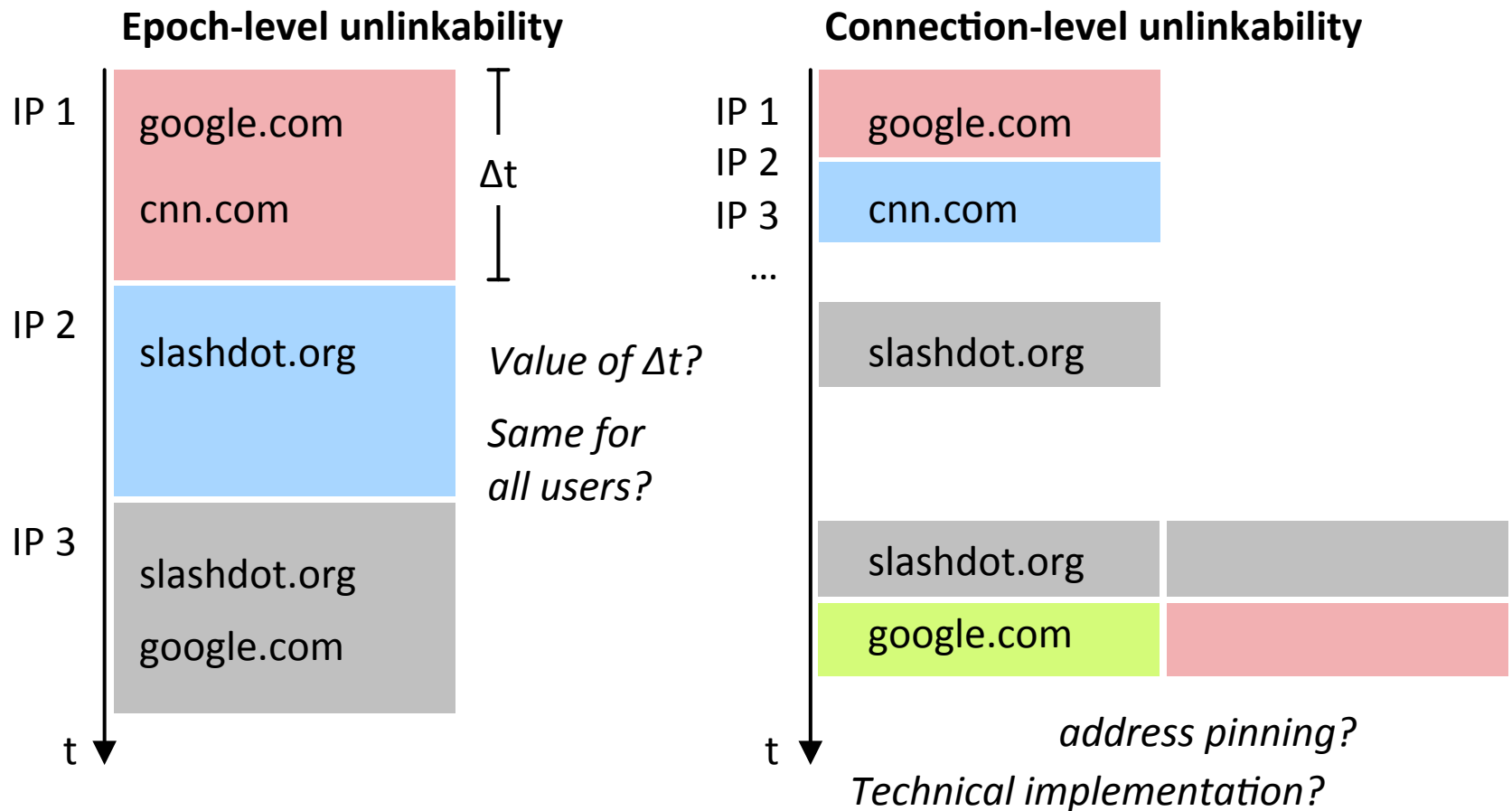
## Prefix Sharing



- Prefix Hopping: Each customer spreads his/her traffic over multiple addresses (or prefixes) within a short period of time
  - trackers can link all activities for which the same address is used
  - trackers cannot link activities when the address (or prefix) is changed

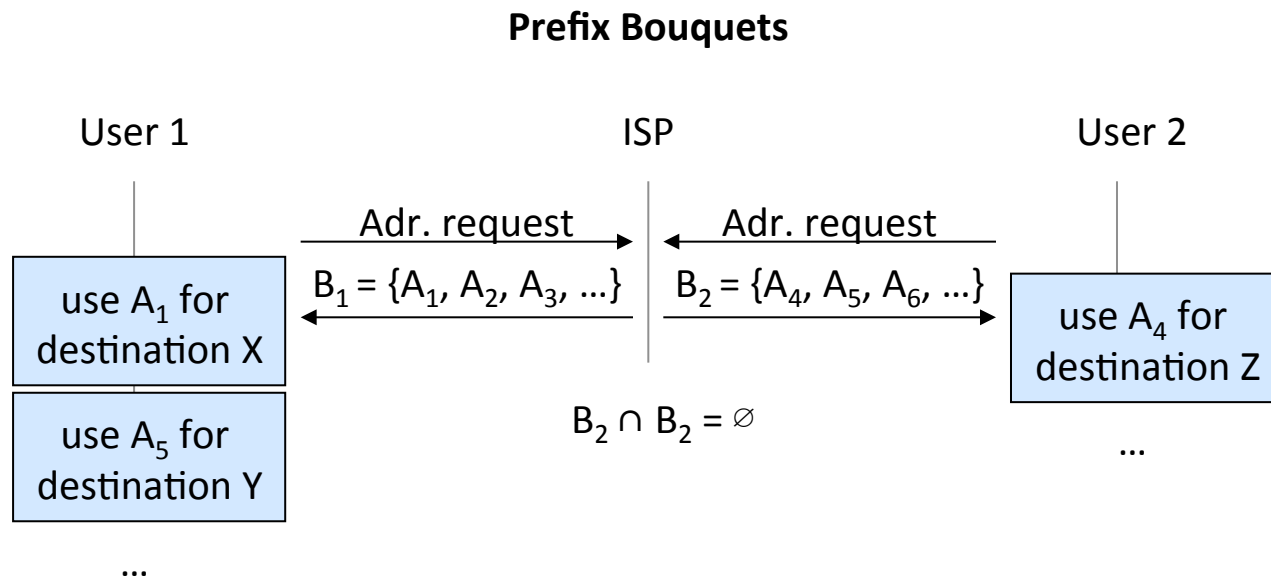


# IPv6 traffic pseudonymization





- Prefix Bouquets: each customer uses a new address (or prefixes) for a different destination
  - trackers can link all activities for which the same address is used
  - trackers cannot link activities when the address (or prefix) is changed



## Summary

- Focused on different technical methods and attacker models
  - to achieve anonymity and/or unobservability
  - against outsiders and/or outsiders
- Technical Methods
  - Proxies, Broadcast
  - Blind message service, DC network, MIX network
- Challenges and Problems
  - Censorship resistance
  - Criminal misuse
  - Correlation attacks
  - Lightweight anonymity by IPv6 pseudonymization





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