

CSE 484: Computer Security and Privacy

Authentication + Tracking

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Thanks to Franz Roesner, Dan Boneh, Dieter Gollmann, Dan Halperin, David Kohlbrenner, Yoshi Kohno, Ada Lerner, John Manferdelli, John Mitchell, Vitaly Shmatikov, Bennet Yee, and many others for sample slides and materials ...

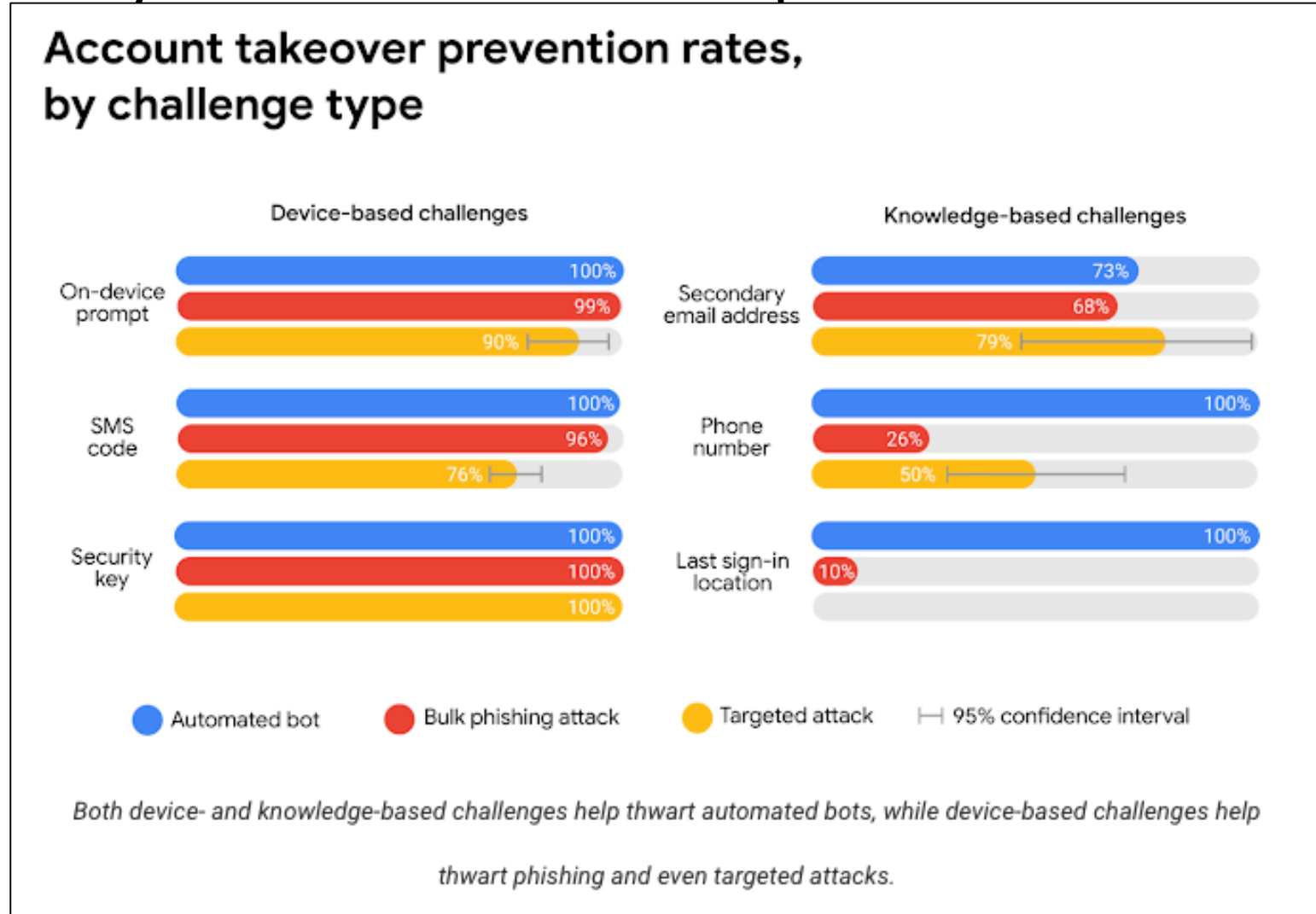
Logistics

- HW3 due Wednesday
- HW2 grades released
- Final project will be covered Monday and released

Why does 2FA (sometimes) work?

- Stops phishing, when it is hardware token
- Doesn't when it is SMS 😞

Secondary Factors Do Help!

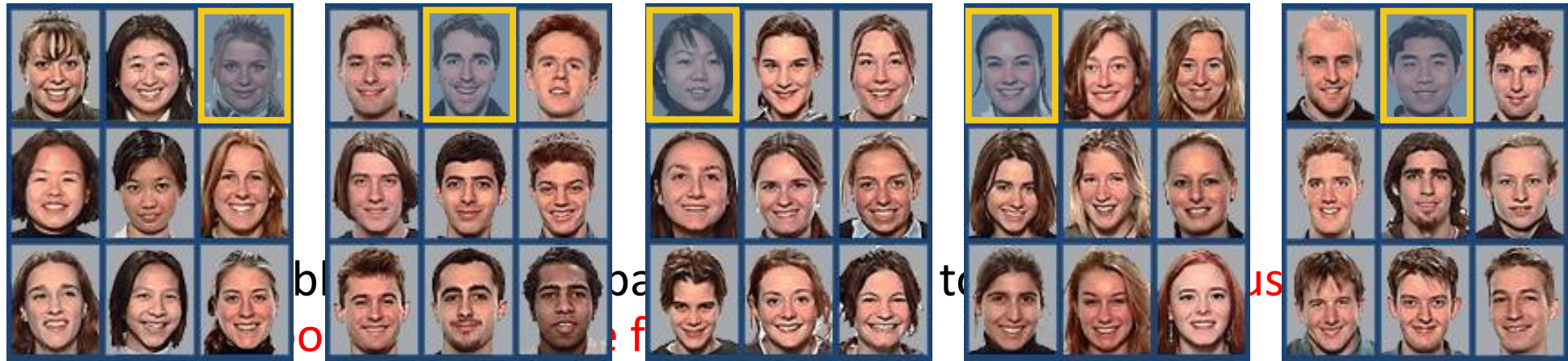


Hardware 2FA tokens (U2F/FIDO)



Graphical Passwords

- Many variants... one example: Passfaces
 - Assumption: easy to recall faces



Graphical Passwords

- Another variant: draw on the image (Windows 8)



- Problem: **users choose predictable points/lines**

Unlock Patterns



- Problems:

- Predictable patterns (familiar pattern by now)
- Smear patterns
- Side channels: apps can use accelerometer and gyroscope to extract pattern!

What About Biometrics?

- Authentication: **What you are**
- Unique identifying characteristics to authenticate user or create credentials
 - Biological and physiological: Fingerprints, iris scan
 - Behaviors characteristics - how perform actions: Handwriting, typing, gait
- Advantages:
 - Nothing to remember
 - Passive
 - Can't share (generally)
 - With perfect accuracy, could be fairly unique

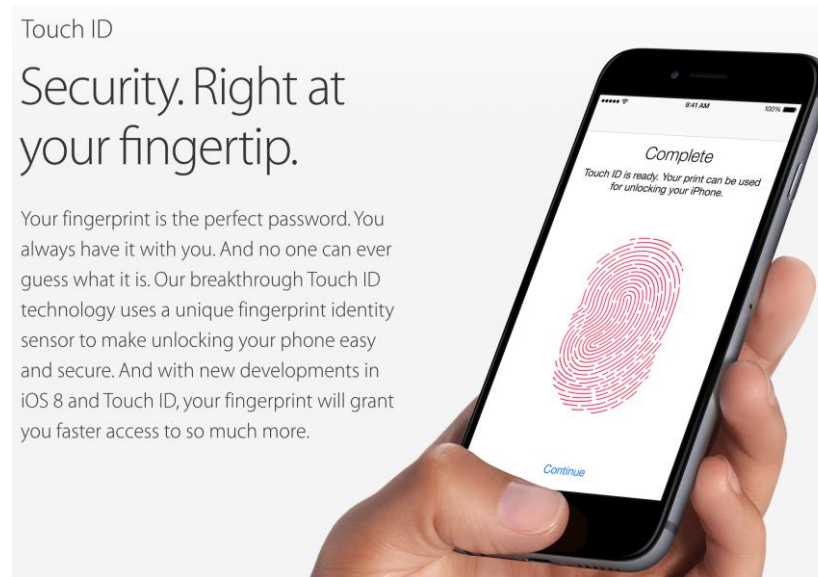
What are reasons to use/*not* use biometrics?

Issues with Biometrics

- Private, but not secret
 - Maybe encoded on the back of an ID card?
 - Maybe encoded on your glass, door handle, ...
 - Sharing between multiple systems?
- Revocation is difficult (impossible?)
 - Sorry, your iris has been compromised, please create a new one...
- Physically identifying
 - Soda machine to cross-reference fingerprint with DMV?
- Birthday paradox
 - With false accept rate of 1 in a million, probability of false match is above 50% with only 1609 samples

Attacking Biometrics

- An adversary might try to steal biometric info
 - Malicious fingerprint reader
 - Consider when biometric is used to derive a cryptographic key
 - Residual fingerprint on a glass



Passkeys (2023)

- An actual, deployed, genuine *password replacement*
 - *Also a 2fa replacement!*
 - *And a username replacement!*
- Basic goals:
 - Store some sort of key on user end-devices
 - Use that key to login to Stuff
 - Don't allow losing the key
 - Somehow make the key moving between devices Easy

Privacy and web tracking

A topic in flux

- Tracking via cookies
- Tracking via other methods
- Fingerprinting

Ads That Follow You

Advertisers (and others) track your browsing behaviors for the purposes of targeted ads, website analytics, and personalized content.

www.zappos.com/converse-chuck-taylor-all-star-core-ox-black
Order before 1pm PST for FREE Next Business Day shipping on all Clo

CNN.com - Breaking News x
www.cnn.com

Sign up Log in
SEARCH
POWERED BY Google
Money Sports
CNN Your Homepage
Business

92°
It's snowing today and Abundant Life Christian Academy is the only one with the balls to stay open

VIDEO POLITICS SPORTS

the ONION America's Finest News Source
AY CLUB YouTube f t

The Onion YouTube 846K
The Onion Facebook Like 3,330,523
Follow @TheOnion

Click to play
suspect had a run-in with another moviegoer, prosecutors say. FULL STORY

VIDEO

FREE SHIPPING BOTH WAYS
Chuck Taylor All Star Core Ox Classic Shoes - White
Solarsoft Mule Men's Shoes - Black \$65
SHOP NOW SHOP NOW
Why am I seeing this ad? Learn more

Third-Party Web Tracking

The image shows a collage of browser windows. On the left is 'The Onion - America's Finest News Source' with a Zappos ad. On the right is 'CNN.com - Breaking News' with a Zappos ad. In the center, a blue box with a white border contains the text: 'Browsing profile for user 123:' followed by a list of domains: 'cnn.com', 'theonion.com', 'adult-site.com', and 'political-site.com'. To the right of the list is a red sad face icon. The Zappos ads in the background show various shoe products with prices and 'SHOP NOW' buttons.

These ads allow **criteo.com** to link your visits between sites, **even if you never click on the ads.**

Gradescope

- Do you take any particular precautions about tracking?
 - For web browsing?
 - Phone apps?
 - Phone tracking?
- Why do you take or not take those actions?
 - Any you would like to but don't?

Marketing Technology Landscape

The Martech 5000

Total Solutions 8,000

Advertising & Promotion 922

Content & Experience 1,936

Social & Relationships 1,969

Commerce & Sales 1,314

Data 1,258

Management 601

 Access all the data of this landscape & more at martech5000.com

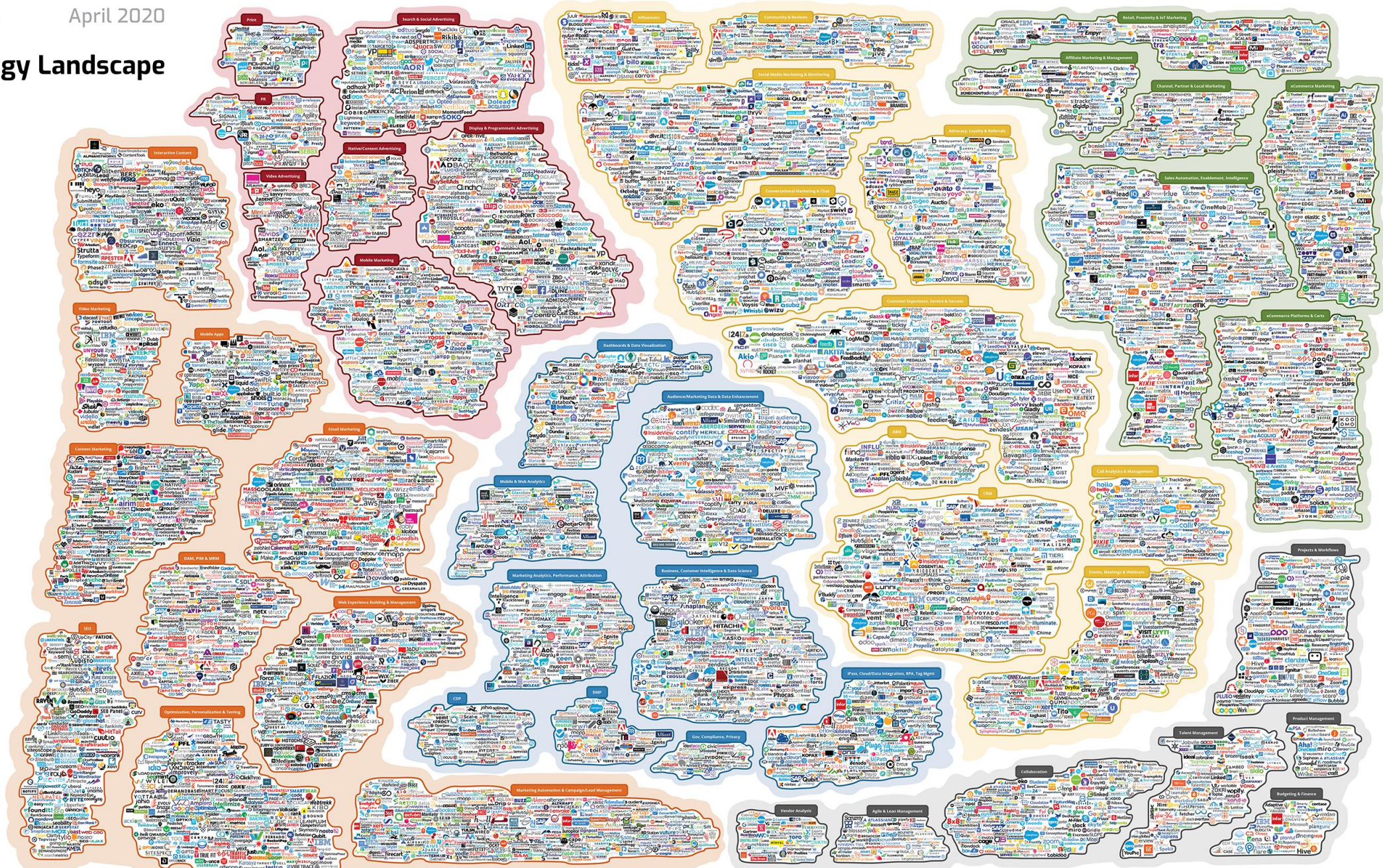
 2019
7,040 solutions

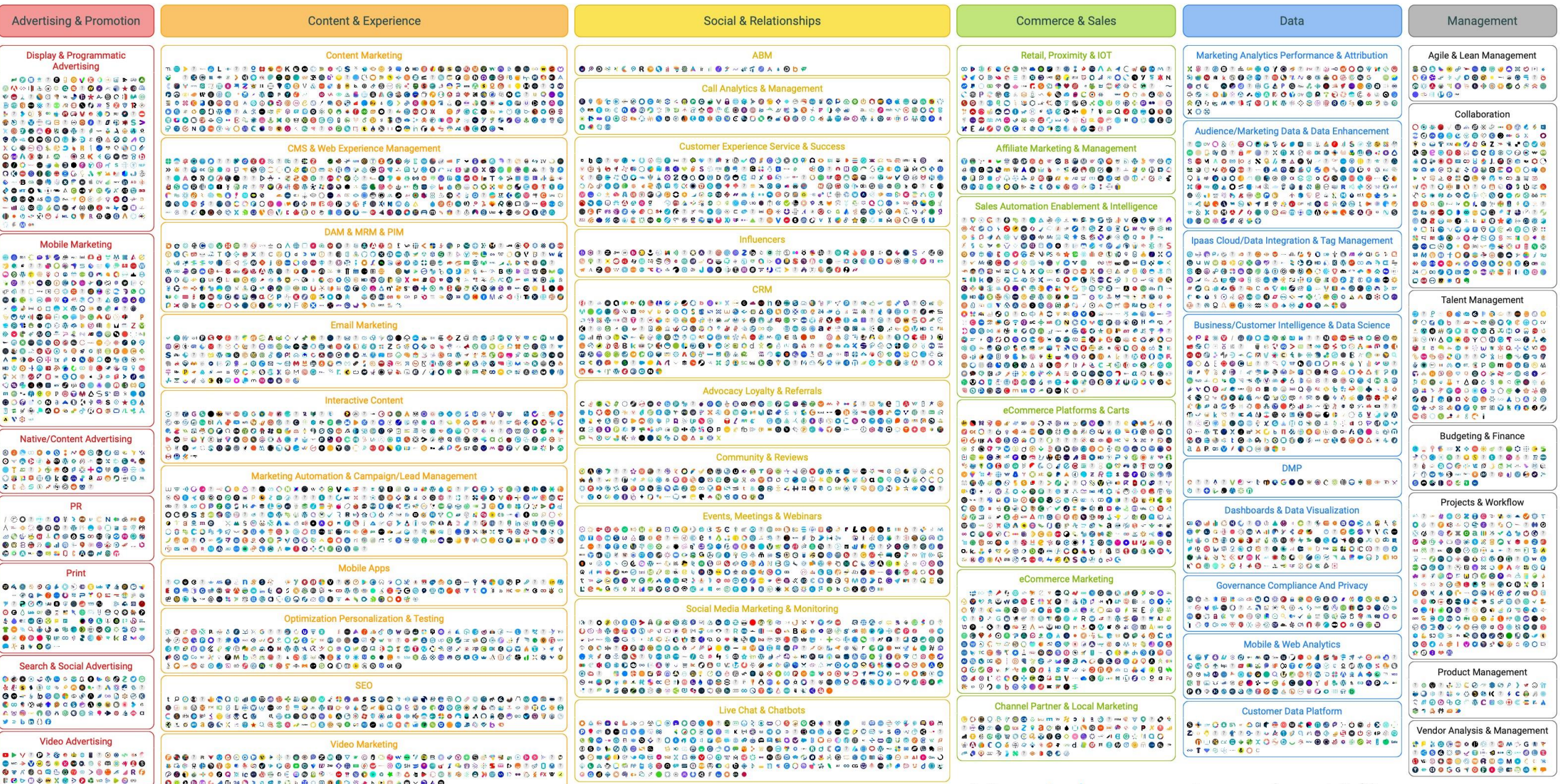
 2018
6,829 solutions

 2017
5,381 solutions

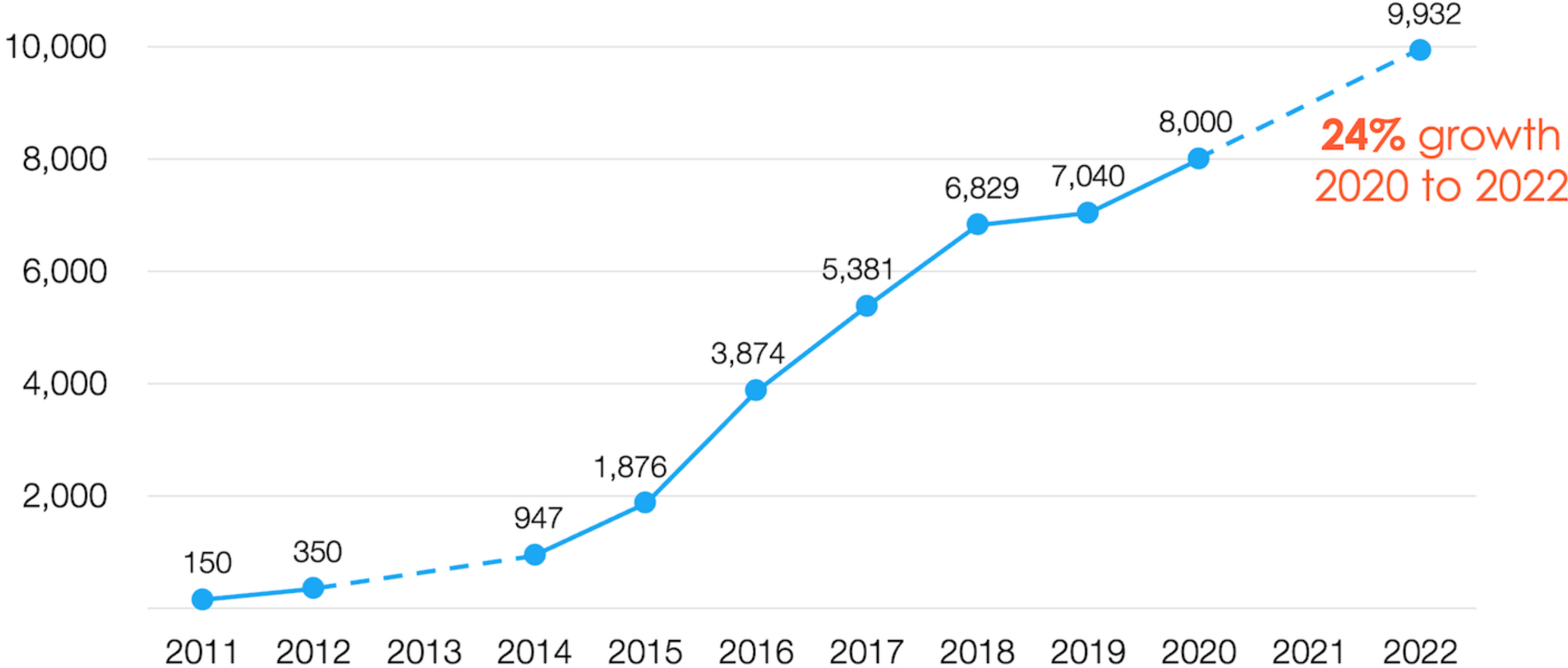
 2016
3,874 solutions

 2015
1,876 solutions

 2014
947 solutions




6,521% growth 2011 to 2022



<https://chiefmartec.com/2022/05/marketing-technology-landscape-2022-search-9932-solutions-on-martechmap-com/>

Concerns About Privacy



House, Senate leaders nearing deal on landmark online privacy bill

The expected agreement vaults Congress closer to legislation that lawmakers have sought for decades



By [Cristiano Lima-Strong](#)

April 5, 2024 at 7:26 p.m. EDT

The file consists
identifies her as

On Friday, two bills were introduced in Washington in support of a Do Not Track mechanism that would give users control over how much of their data was collected by advertisers and other online companies.

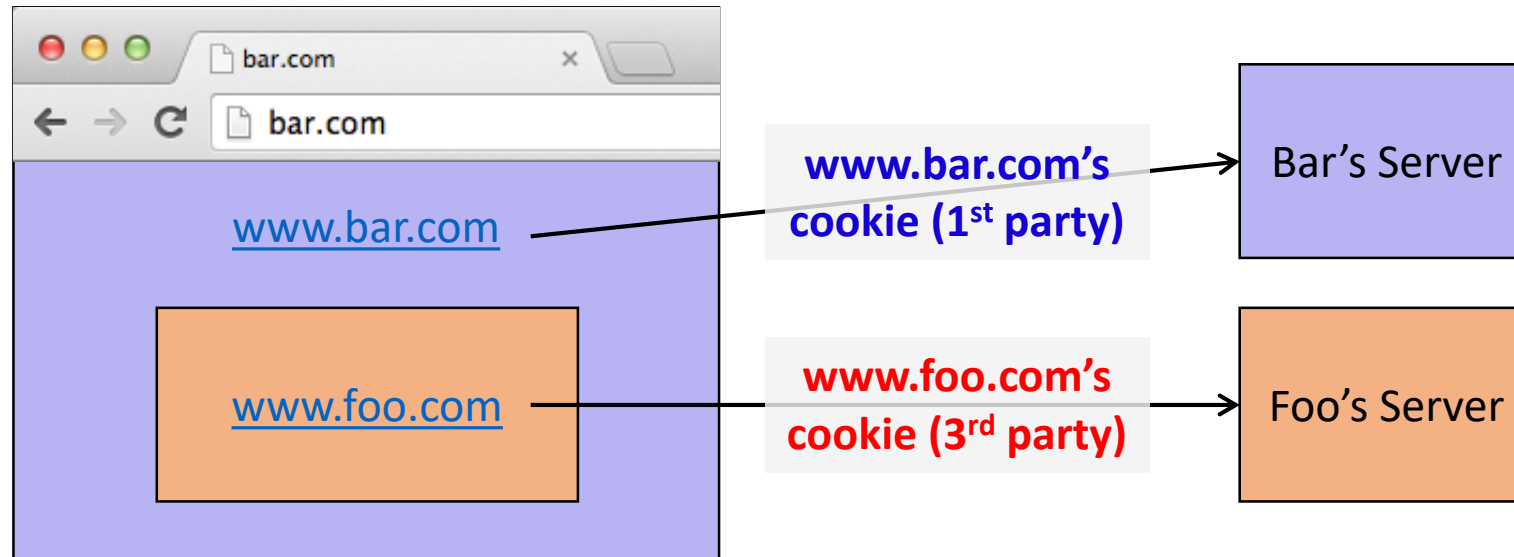
By JENNIFER VALENTINO-DEVRIES,
JEREMY SINGER-VINE and ASHKAN SOLTANI
December 24, 2012



als
ion

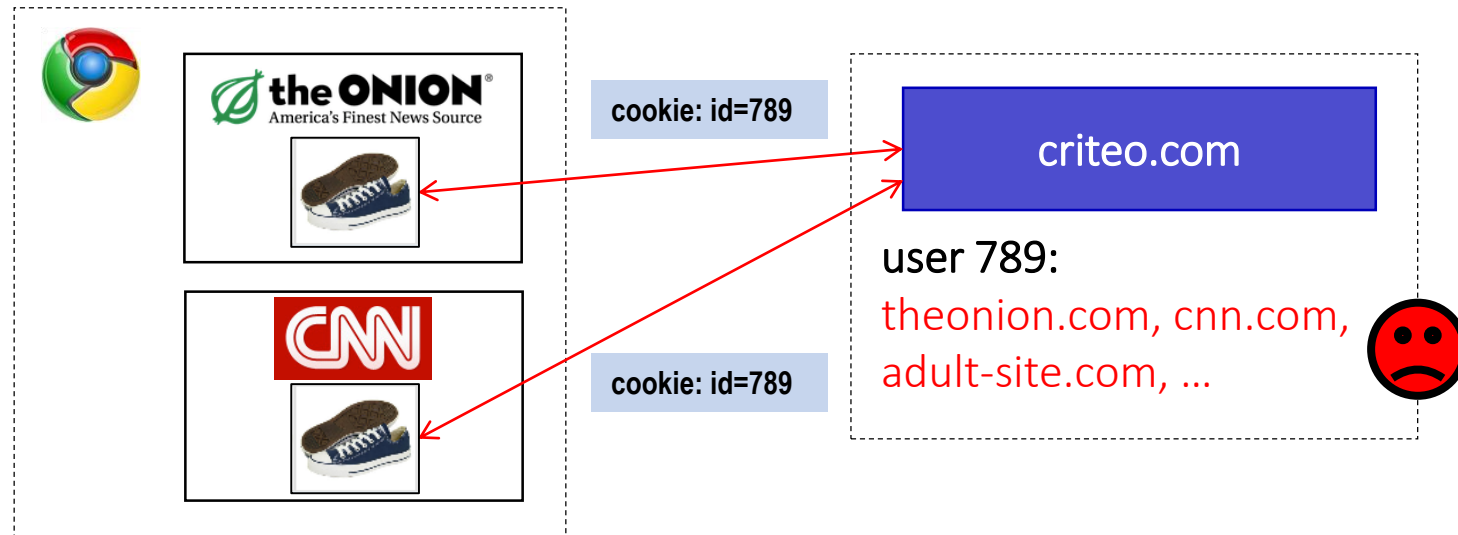
First and Third Parties

- **First-party cookie:** belongs to top-level domain.
- **Third-party cookie:** belongs to domain of embedded content (such as image, iframe).



Anonymous Tracking

Trackers **included in other sites** use **third-party cookies** containing unique **identifiers** to create browsing profiles.



Basic Tracking Mechanisms

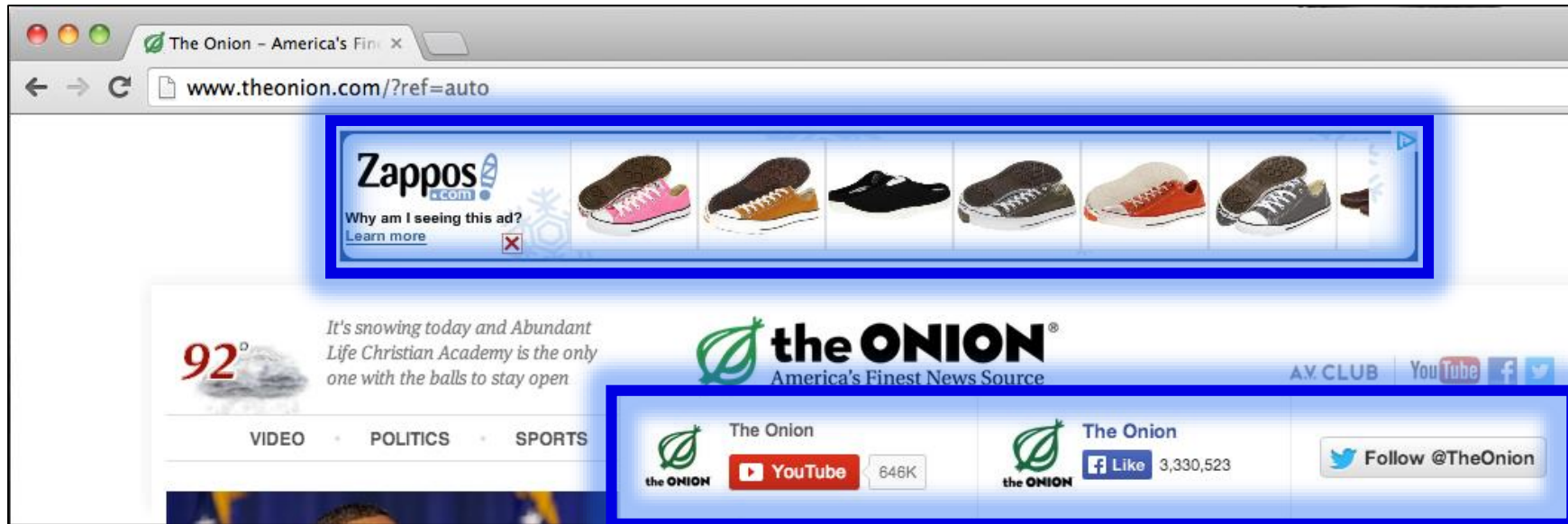
- Tracking requires:
 - (1) re-identifying a user.
 - (2) communicating id + visited site back to tracker.

```
▼ Hypertext Transfer Protocol
  ▸ GET /pixel/p-3aud4J6uA4Z6Y.gif?labels=InvisibleBox&busty=2710 HTTP/1.1\r\n
    Host: pixel.quantserve.com\r\n
    Connection: keep-alive\r\n
    Accept: image/webp,*/*;q=0.8\r\n
    User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_9_2) AppleWebKit/537.36\r\n
    Referer: http://www.theonion.com/\r\n
    Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate,sdch\r\n
    Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.8\r\n
    Cookie: mc=52a65386-f1de1-00ade-0b26e; d=ENkBRgGHD4GYEA35MMIL74MKiyDs1A2MQI1Q
```

Tracking Technologies

- HTTP Cookies
- HTTP Auth
- HTTP Etags
- Content cache
- IE userData
- HTML5 protocol and content handlers
- HTML5 storage
- Flash cookies
- Silverlight storage
- TLS session ID & resume
- Browsing history
- window.name
- HTTP STS
- DNS cache
- “Zombie” cookies that respawn (<http://samy.pl/evercookie>)

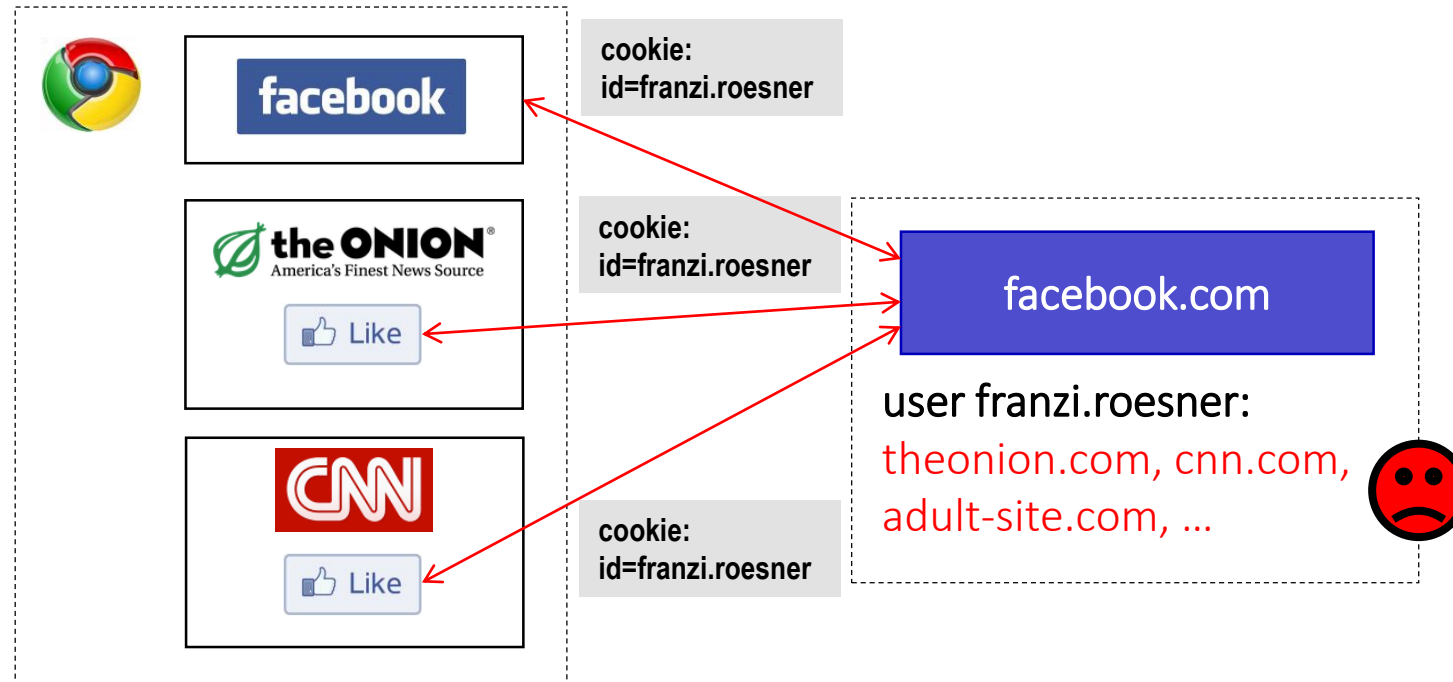
Other Trackers?



“Personal” Trackers



Personal Tracking



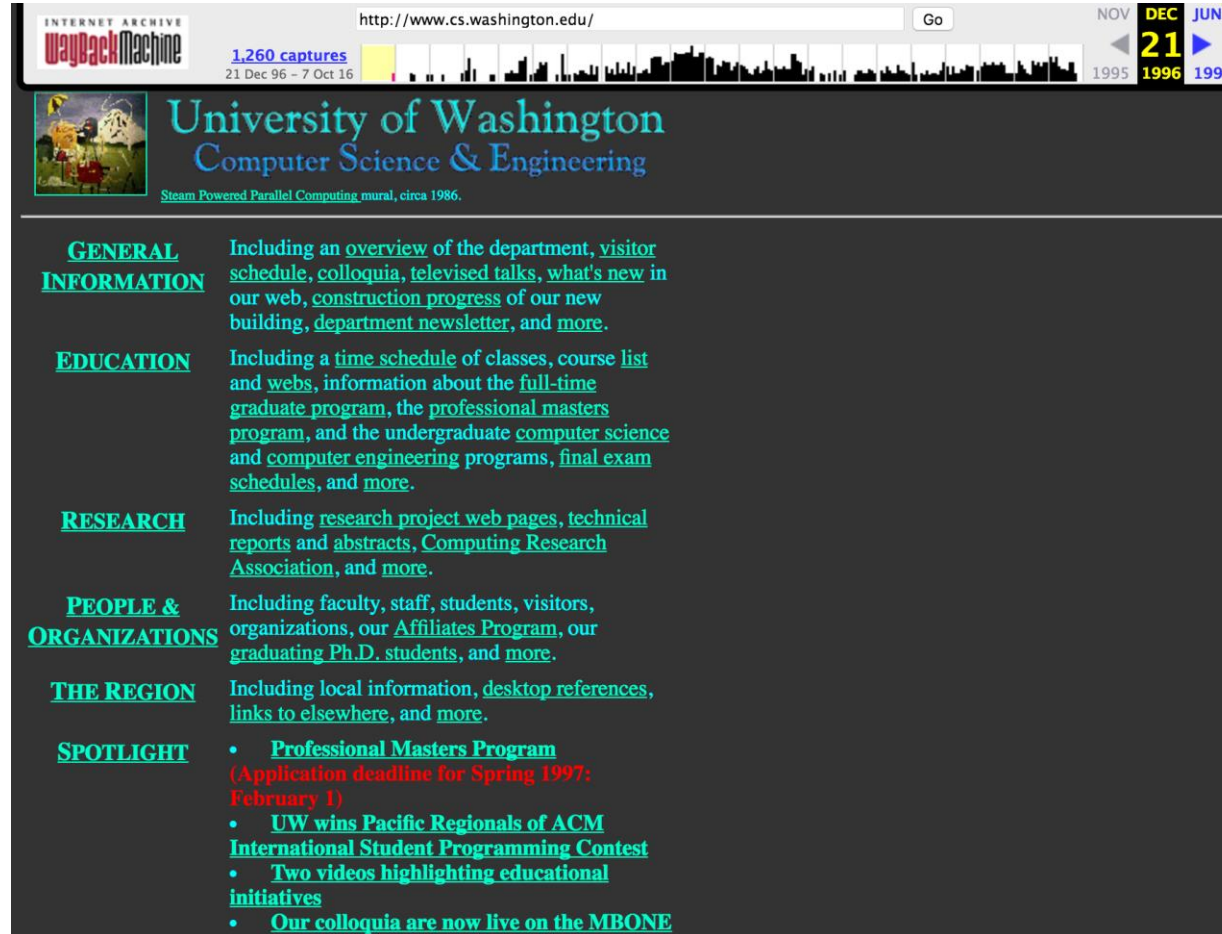
- Tracking is **not anonymous** (linked to accounts).
- Users **directly visit tracker's site** → evades some defenses.

How has this changed over time?

- The web has existed for a while now...
 - What about tracking before 2011?
 - What about tracking before 2009?
- Solution: **time travel!**



The Wayback Machine to the Rescue



The screenshot shows the Wayback Machine interface for the URL <http://www.cs.washington.edu/>. The page is titled "University of Washington Computer Science & Engineering" and features a "Steam Powered Parallel Computing mural, circa 1986." The navigation menu includes sections for GENERAL INFORMATION, EDUCATION, RESEARCH, PEOPLE & ORGANIZATIONS, THE REGION, and SPOTLIGHT. The SPOTLIGHT section highlights several key events and programs, including the Professional Masters Program, UW's success at the ACM International Student Programming Contest, and the availability of colloquia on the MBONE.

INTERNET ARCHIVE
Wayback Machine
1,260 captures
21 Dec 96 - 7 Oct 16

<http://www.cs.washington.edu/> Go

NOV DEC JUN
1995 1996 1998

University of Washington
Computer Science & Engineering
Steam Powered Parallel Computing mural, circa 1986.

GENERAL INFORMATION Including an [overview](#) of the department, [visitor schedule](#), [colloquia](#), [televised talks](#), [what's new](#) in our web, [construction progress](#) of our new building, [department newsletter](#), and [more](#).

EDUCATION Including a [time schedule](#) of classes, [course list](#) and [webs](#), information about the [full-time graduate program](#), the [professional masters program](#), and the undergraduate [computer science](#) and [computer engineering](#) programs, [final exam schedules](#), and [more](#).

RESEARCH Including [research project web pages](#), [technical reports](#) and [abstracts](#), [Computing Research Association](#), and [more](#).

PEOPLE & ORGANIZATIONS Including faculty, staff, students, visitors, organizations, our [Affiliates Program](#), our [graduating Ph.D. students](#), and [more](#).

THE REGION Including local information, [desktop references](#), [links to elsewhere](#), and [more](#).

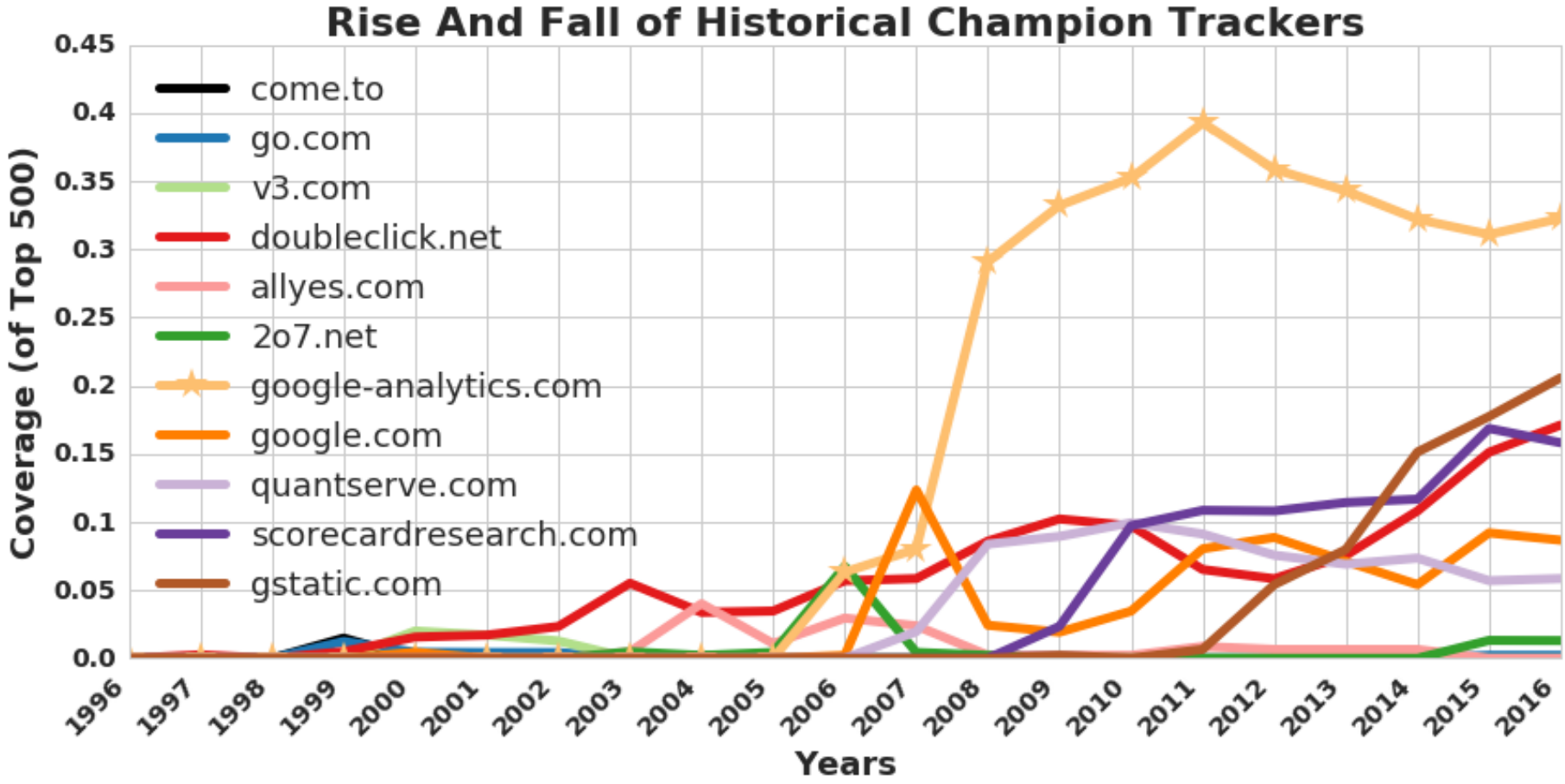
SPOTLIGHT

- **Professional Masters Program** (Application deadline for Spring 1997: February 1)
- **UW wins Pacific Regionals of ACM International Student Programming Contest**
- **Two videos highlighting educational initiatives**
- **Our colloquia are now live on the MBONE**

Time travel for web tracking: <http://trackingexcavator.cs.washington.edu>

1996-2016: More & More Tracking

- More trackers of more types, more per site, **more coverage**



Defenses to Reduce Tracking

- Do Not Track?

Send a 'Do Not Track' request with your browsing traffic

Do Not Track is not a technical defense:
trackers must honor the request.

Defenses to Reduce Tracking

- Do Not Track proposal?
- Private browsing mode?

Private browsing mode doesn't protect against network attackers fully.

You've gone incognito

Now you can browse privately, and other people who use this device won't see your activity. However, downloads and bookmarks will be saved. [Learn more](#)

Chrome won't save the following information:

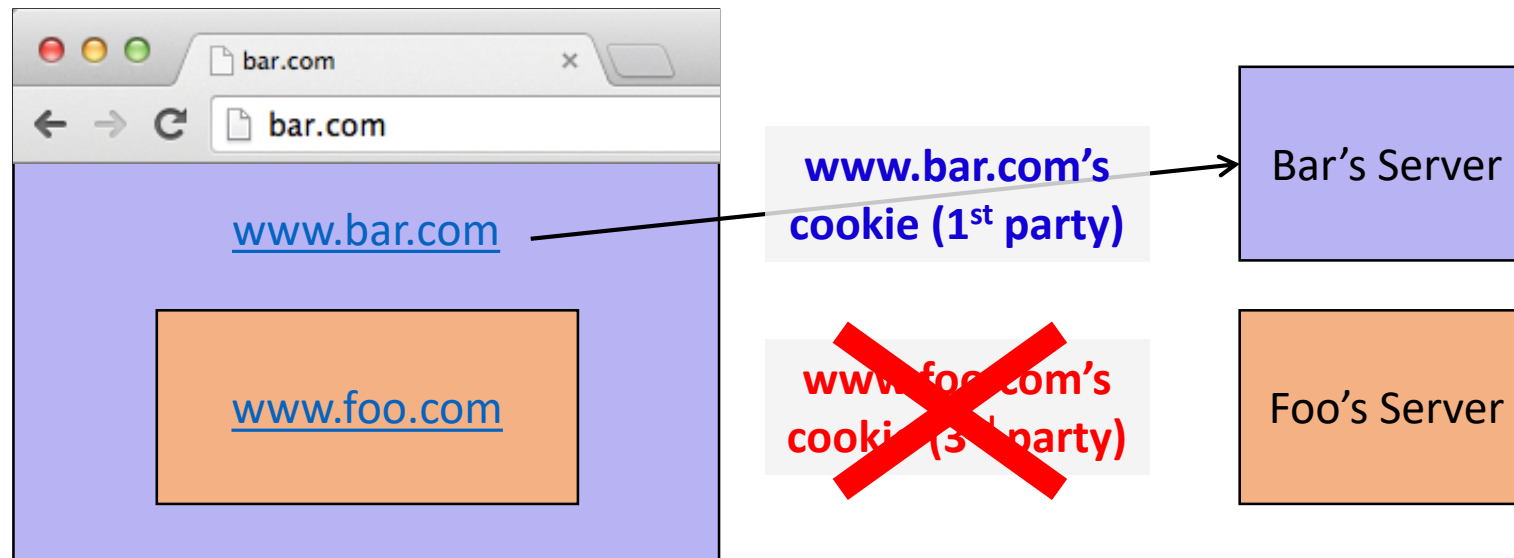
- Your browsing history
- Cookies and site data
- Information entered in forms

Your activity might still be visible to:

- Websites you visit
- Your employer or school
- Your internet service provider

Defenses to Reduce Tracking

- Do Not Track proposal?
- Private browsing mode?
- Third-party cookie blocking?



3rd party cookies

- Safari and FF (mostly) now block 3rd party cookies
 - <https://webkit.org/blog/10218/full-third-party-cookie-blocking-and-more/>
 - <https://blog.mozilla.org/blog/2019/09/03/todays-firefox-blocks-third-party-tracking-cookies-and-cryptomining-by-default/>

- Chrome...

“By undermining the business model of many ad-supported websites, blunt approaches to cookies encourage the use of opaque techniques such as fingerprinting (an invasive workaround to replace cookies), which can actually reduce user privacy and control. We believe that we as a community can, and must, do better.”

Aug 2022: Remove 3rd party cookies by 2024