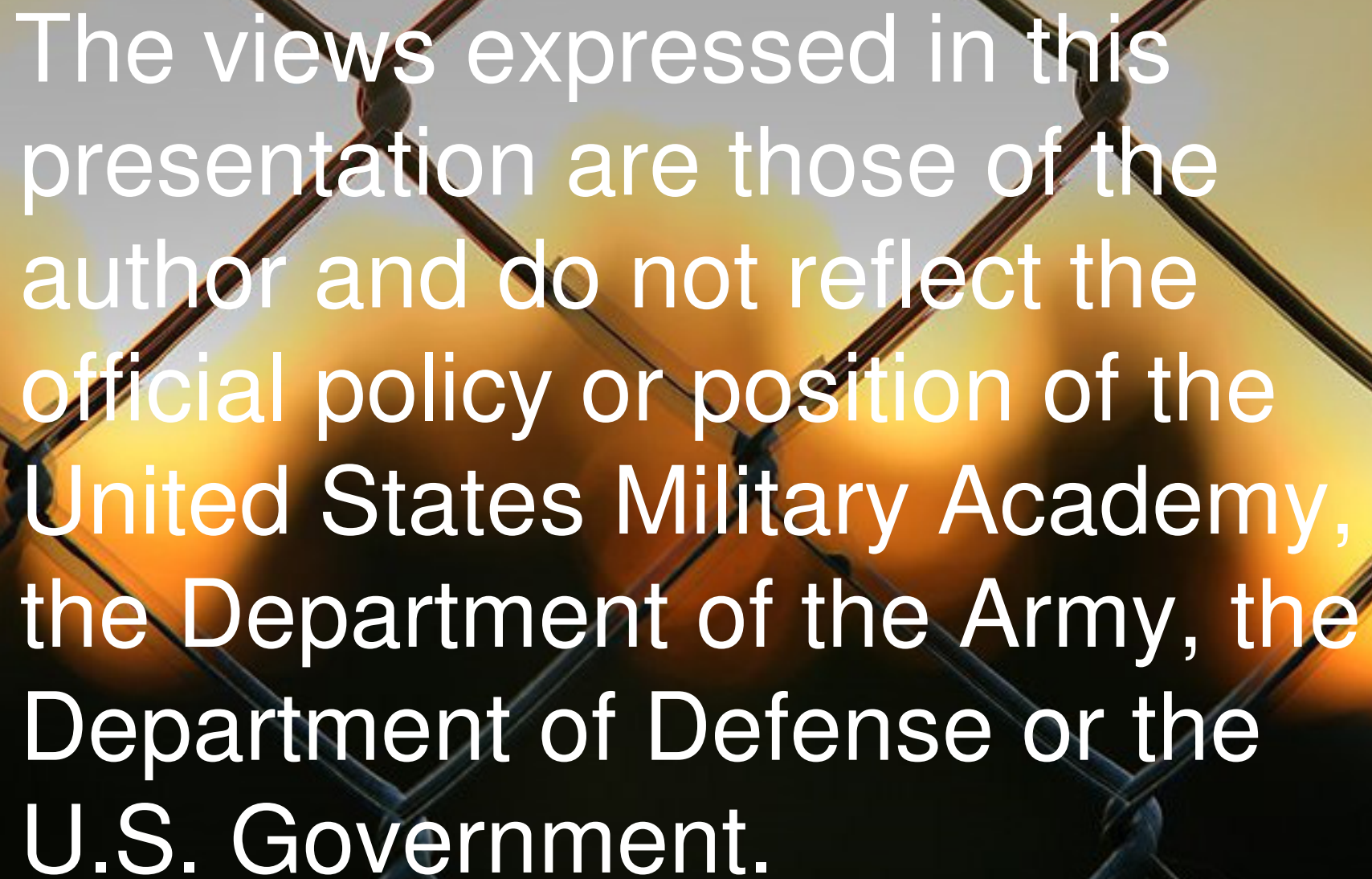


A detailed close-up of the face and flowing golden hair of the Venus figure from Sandro Botticelli's painting 'Primavera'. The face is pale with soft, rosy cheeks and a serene expression. The hair is thick, wavy, and golden, cascading down and around the face. The background is a soft, hazy blue.

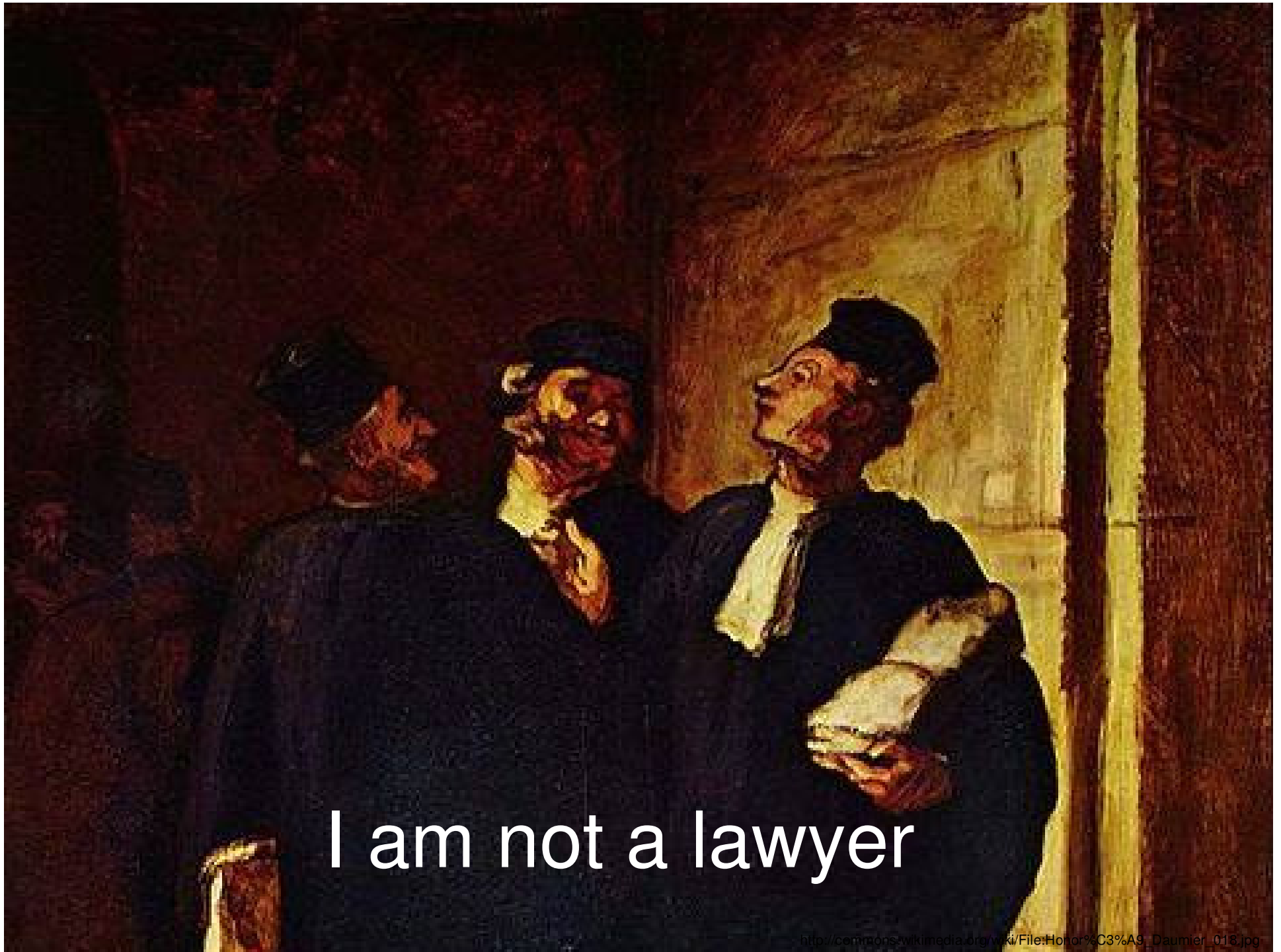
The Art and Science of Security Research

Gregory Conti

gregory.conti@usma.edu



The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the United States Military Academy, the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Government.

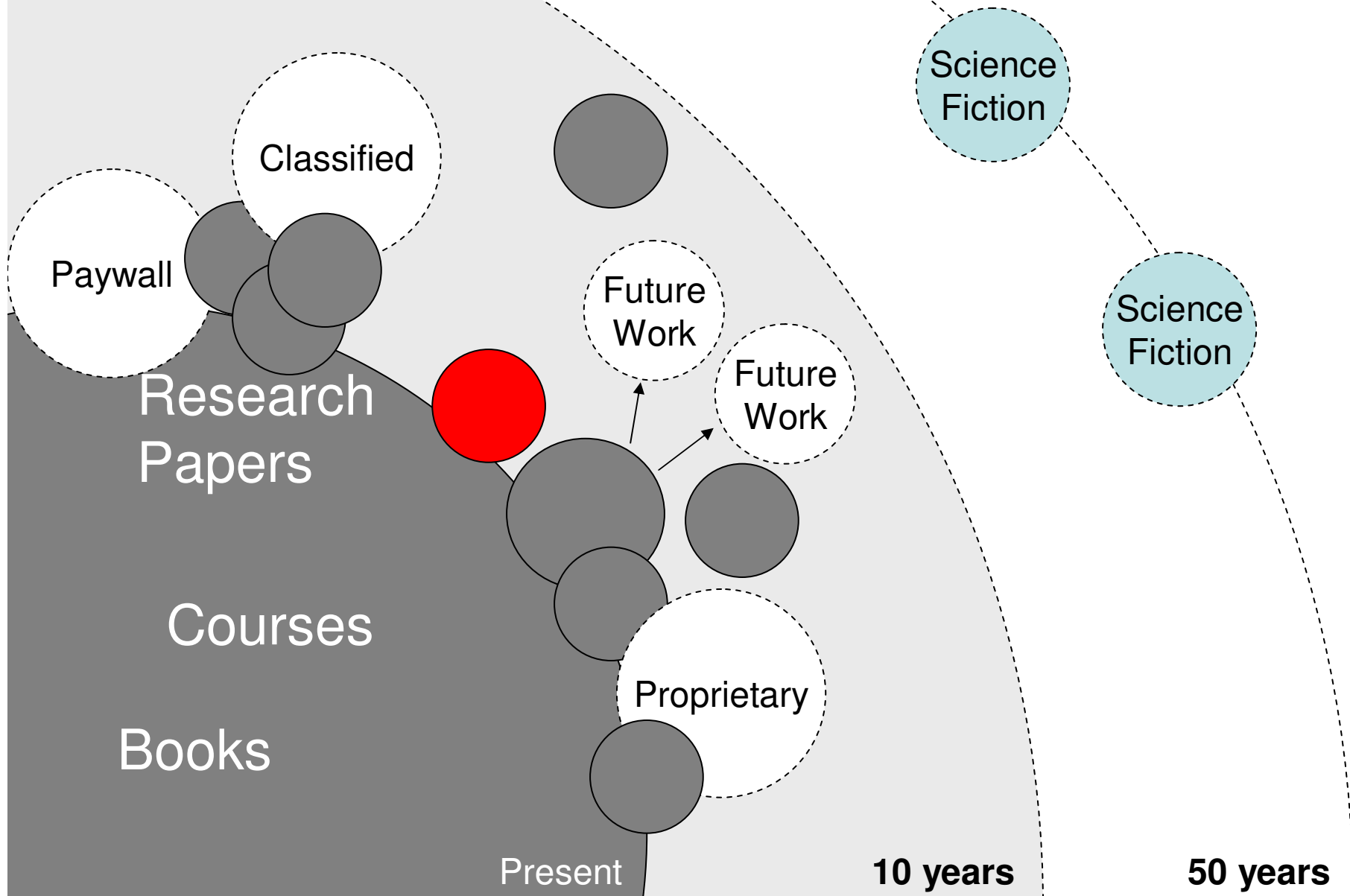


I am not a lawyer

What is Research?

The search for knowledge, with an open mind, to establish novel facts, solve new or existing problems, prove new ideas, or develop new theories, usually using a scientific method.

Edge of Human Knowledge



Why Research?

- Advance human knowledge
- Give back, so others can take your work to the next level
- Make yourself an expert
- Valuable skill set
- Fun and rewarding
- Get credit, notoriety, profit
- Build you resume
- You are already doing the work



What hackers bring to the table...



- Native curiosity
- Cleverness
- Color outside the lines
- Hackers do great work
- Less constraints, Less fear
- Freedom to choose problems that industry or academia can't/won't touch
- Hackers can build things
- Inspiration and obsession
- Devious minds
- Interesting ideas
- Access to interesting data
- Interesting acquaintances

Seek to be the World Expert

“In fact, researchers have settled on what they believe is the magic number for true expertise: ten thousand hours.”

- Malcolm Gladwell
Outliers

- Or at least an expert
- N world experts in the room
- Momentum
- Once at edge you will see problems (and solutions) that others don't know exist

Depth vs. Breadth

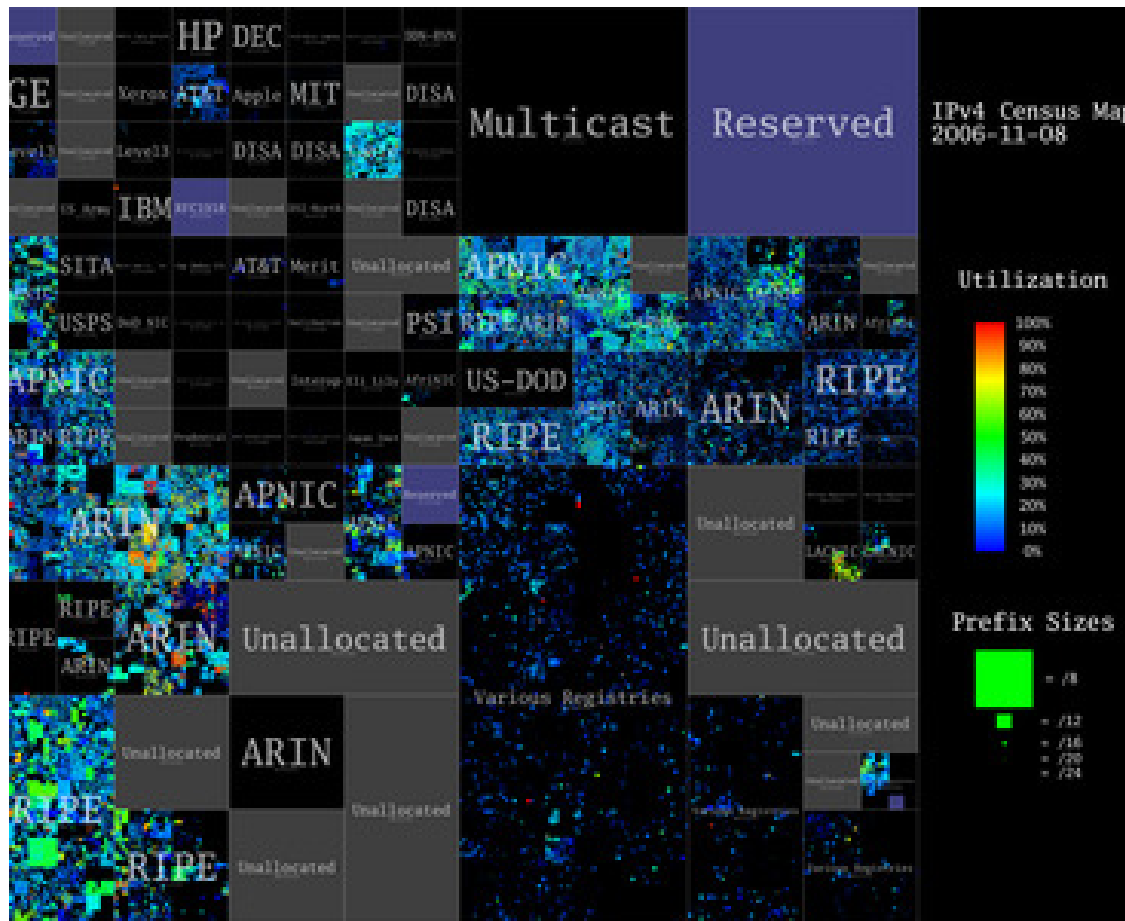


Strategies for Finding Problems

Challenge Assumptions

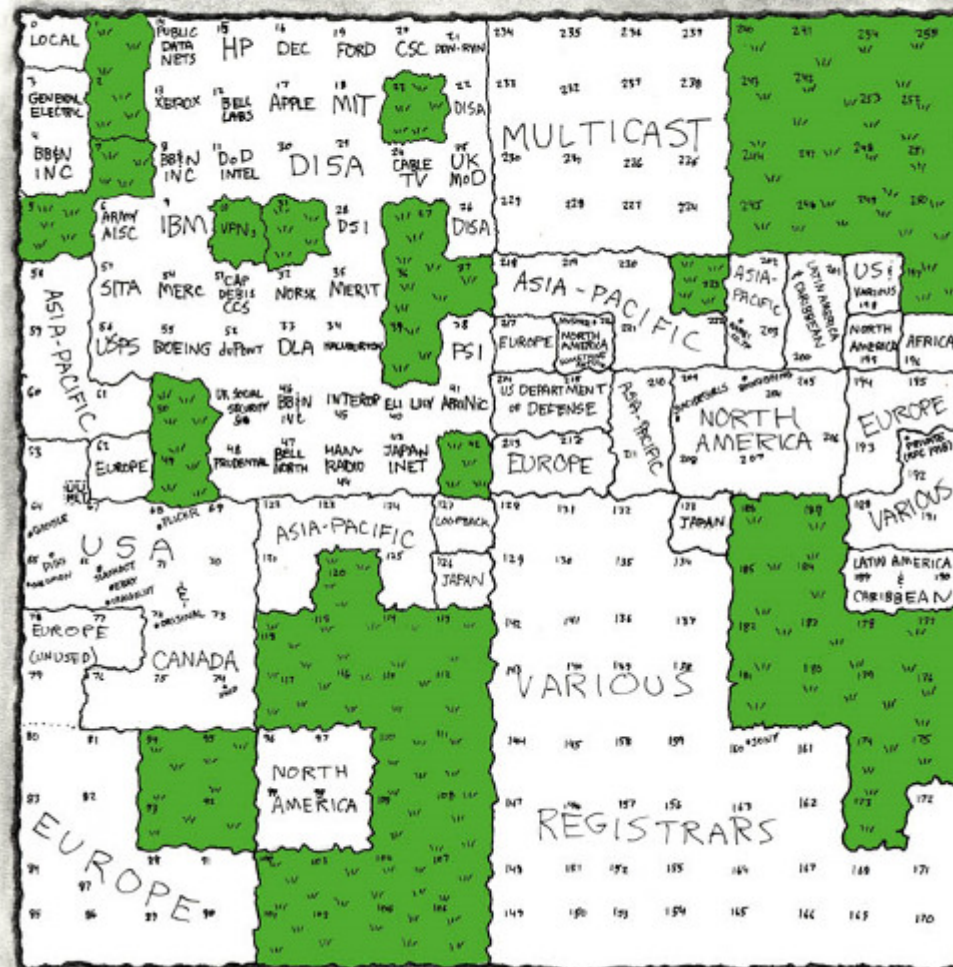


Think Big

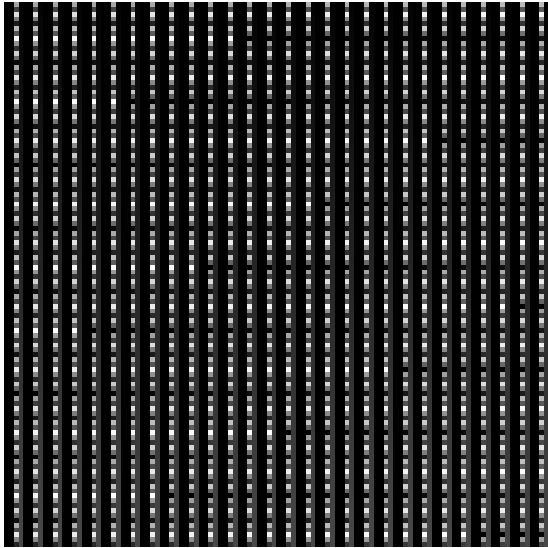


Cooperative Association for Internet Data Analysis (CAIDA)
2007 IPv4 Census Map (two-month ping sweep)

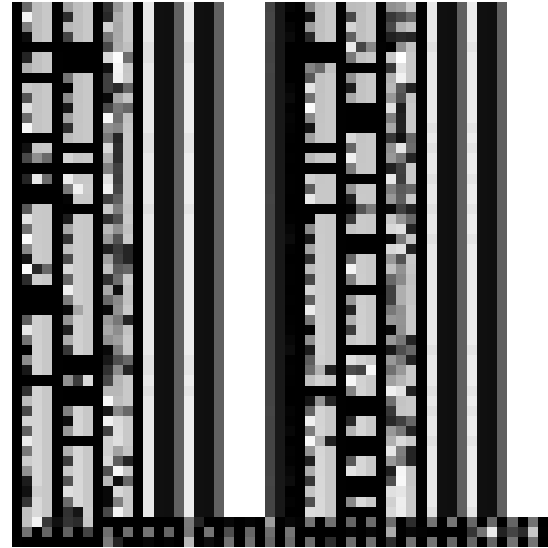
MAP OF THE INTERNET



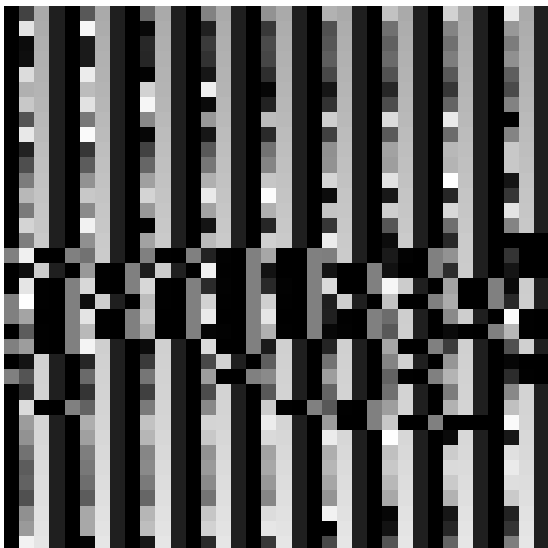
Think Small



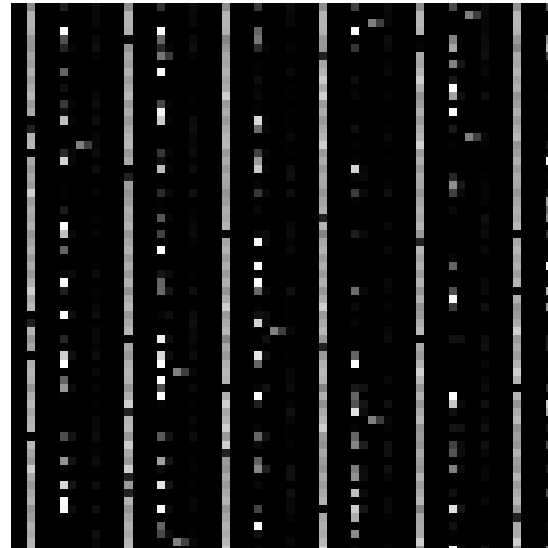
Microsoft Word 2003 .doc



Firefox Process Memory



Windows .dll

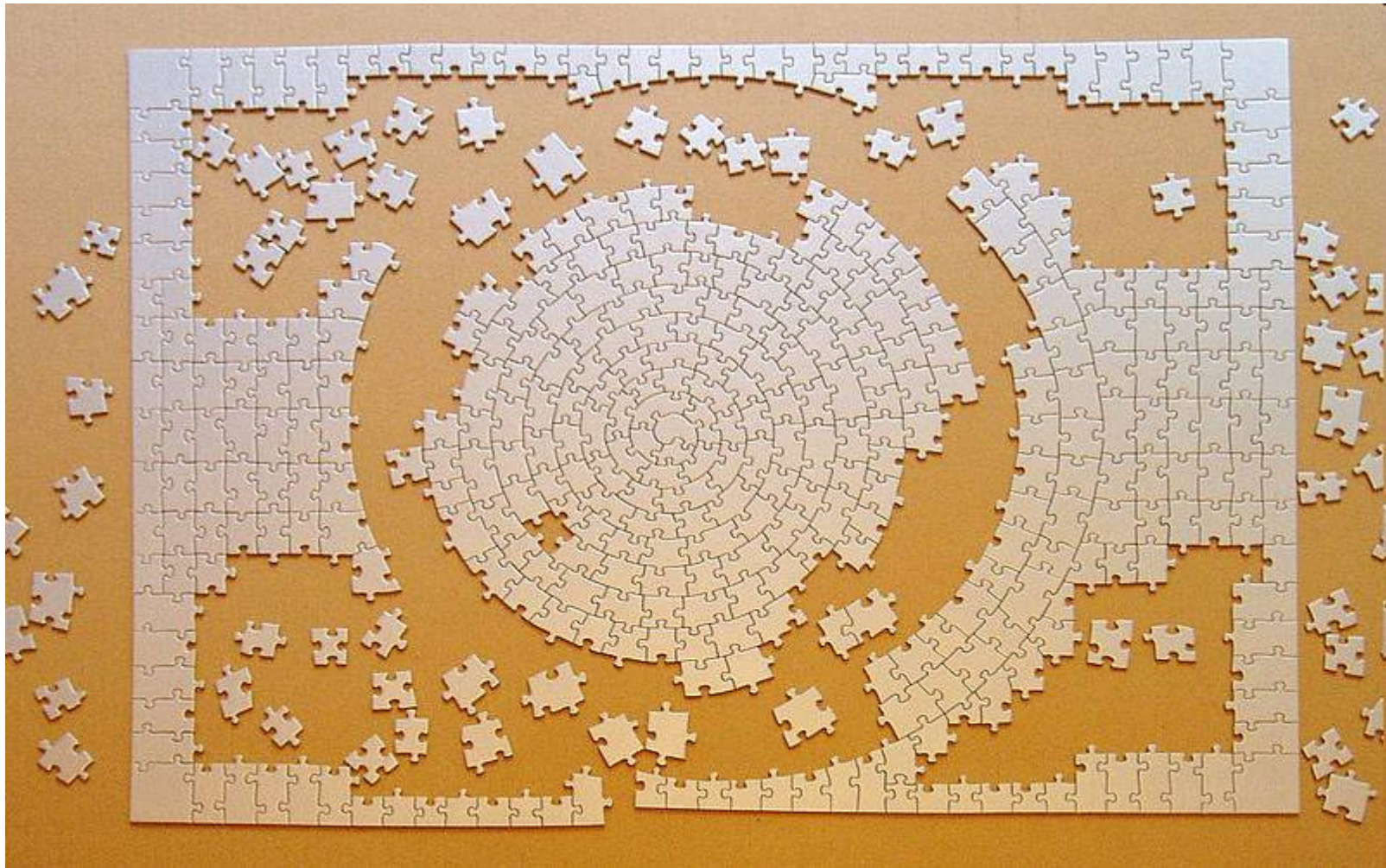


Neverwinter Nights Database

Irritate Software, Hardware, Protocols, and People



Detect Patterns



Detect Patterns

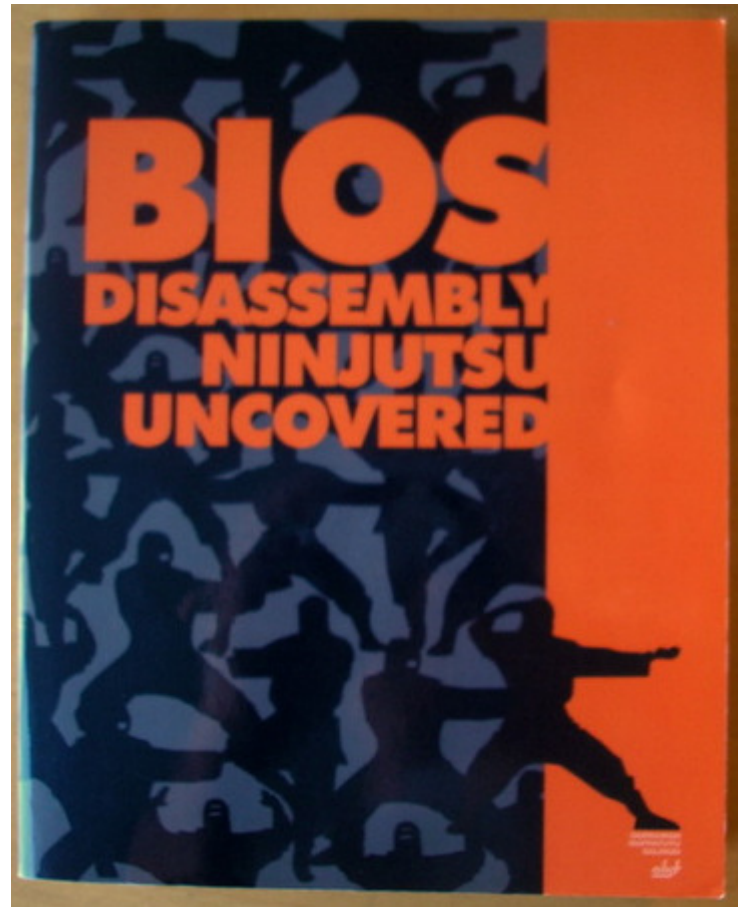


\$500,000 Worth of Bitcoins Stolen	276
Ask Amir Taaki About Bitcoin	741
Friday's Big Swings, Mostly Down, Illustrate Bitcoin Value Volatility	469
Bitcoin Used For the Narcotics Trade	535
AMD Betting Future On the GPGPU	181
Increased Power Usage Leads to Mistaken Pot Busts for Bitcoin Miners	411
Mint It Yourself With a Browser-Based Bitcoin Miner	490
BitCoin, the Most Dangerous Project Ever?	858
Google Engineer Releases Open Source Bitcoin Client	280
Online-Only Currency BitCoin Reaches Dollar Parity	517
2011	
2010	
WikiLeaks, Money, and Ron Paul	565
Bitcoin Releases Version 0.3	491

<http://slashdot.org/index2.pl?fhfilter=bitcoin>

<http://justindupre.com/sunday-squakbox-what-are-your-thoughts-on-bitcoin/>

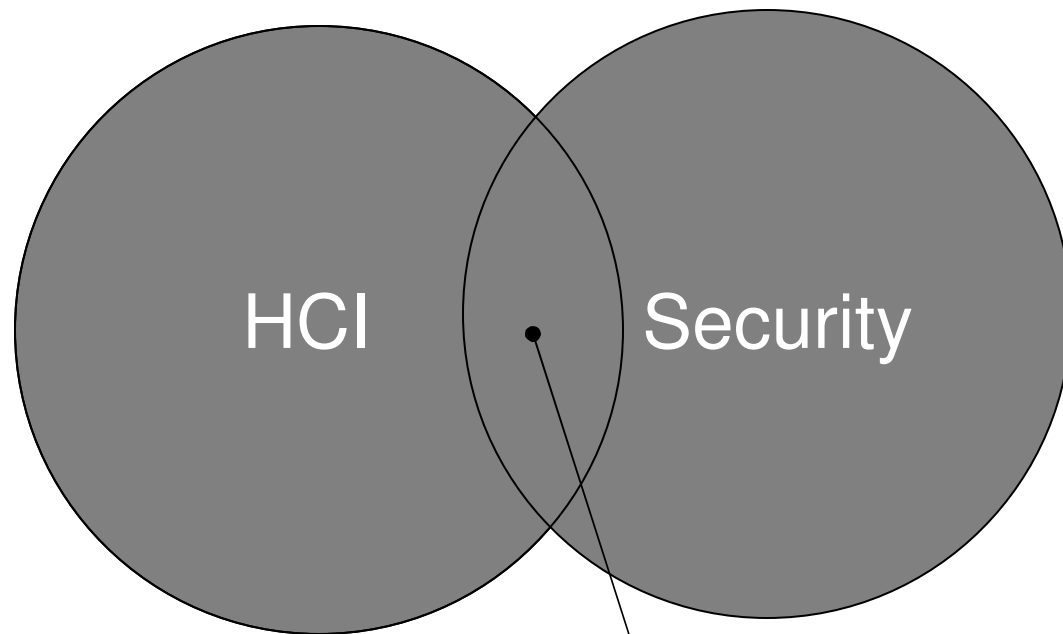
Sense a Need



Darmawan Salihun, 2006

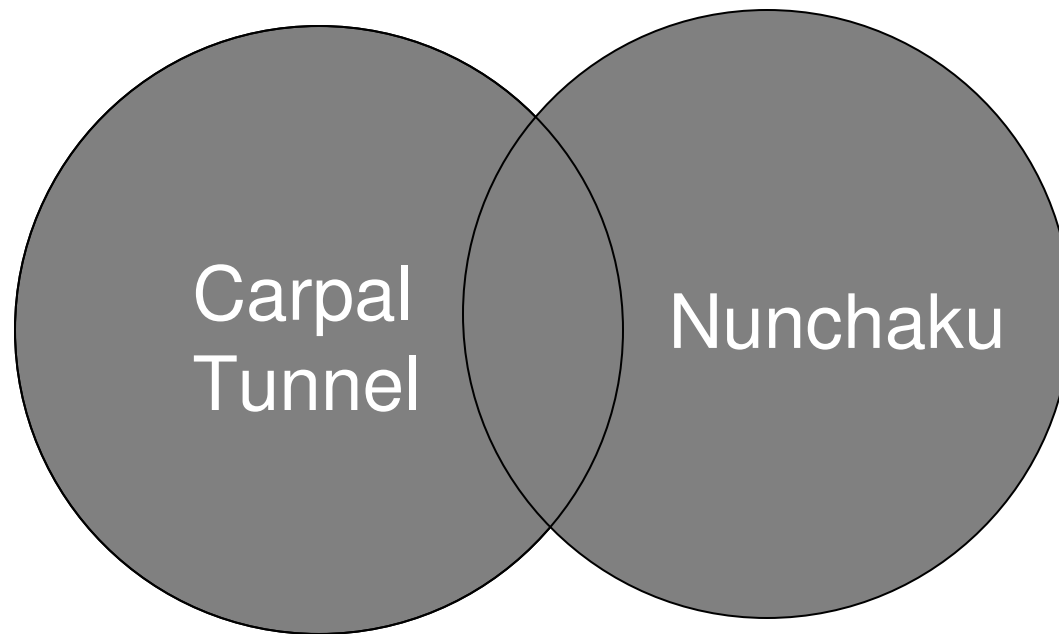
2 used from \$679.00

Look at the Intersection of Your Interest Areas



- Malicious interface design
- Design of privacy interfaces
- Interfaces that lie
- Error exploitation

Exploit Crazy Intersections



Carpal Tunnel



Look for Pain



Bypassing the HR Filter

What Makes You Mad

The image is a composite of several elements. On the left is a screenshot of a weather website for West Point, NY (10996). It shows the current temperature as 68°F, feels like 68°F, and the condition as Cloudy. There are links for 'Save Location', 'English', and 'Metric'. A 'Weather for your life' section is partially visible. Below the weather info is a 'VIDEO' section titled 'Your Local Forecast' with a 'Launch Video for West Point, NY (10996)' button. To the right of the video is a 'Today's Highlights' section with links like 'We now have Tropical Storm Fay' and 'Ask Cantore: What Causes Fog?'. A man in a suit is superimposed on the bottom right of the weather site, pointing towards the right. On the right is a Stoli Blakkeri advertisement. It features a large digital clock showing 01:27:49. Below the clock is the text 'UNTIL YOUR NIGHT BEGINS' and 'START IT OFF WITH THE NEW Stoli Blakkeri'. The ad shows a man and a woman clinking martini glasses. At the bottom of the ad is the text 'CHOOSE RESPONSIBILITY. STOLIBLAKKERI.COM'. A large, detailed image of a Stoli Blakkeri vodka bottle is positioned diagonally across the center, appearing to fly from the weather site towards the advertisement.

Right Now for
West Point, NY (10996)
[Save Location](#) [[English](#) | [Metric](#)]

Weather for your life
Weather Related to... ▾

Cloudy 68°F
Feels Like 68°F

UV Index:
Wind:
Hum:
Pres:
Dew:
Visib:
FREE Weather on your Desktop

Updated Aug 15 08:25 p.m. ET

[West Point Live Webcams](#)

VIDEO
Your Local Forecast
Launch Video for West Point, NY (10996)
Beijing Summer Games Forecast

Today's Highlights
We now have Tropical Storm Fay
Aug. 15, 2008 4:50 pm
Ask Cantore: What Causes Fog?
The Latest Forecast
Rain England

01:27:49
UNTIL YOUR NIGHT BEGINS
START IT OFF WITH THE NEW
Stoli Blakkeri
CHOOSE RESPONSIBILITY.
STOLIBLAKKERI.COM

Flying Vodka Bottles

What Makes You Mad

Get me off Your F Mailing List

David Mazières and Eddie Kohler
New York University
University of California, Los Angeles
<http://www.mailavenger.org/>

Abstract

Get me off your [redacted] mailing list. Get me off
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Academic Spam

What Could Possibly Go Wrong



Self-wiping hard drives from Toshiba

What Could Possibly Go Wrong



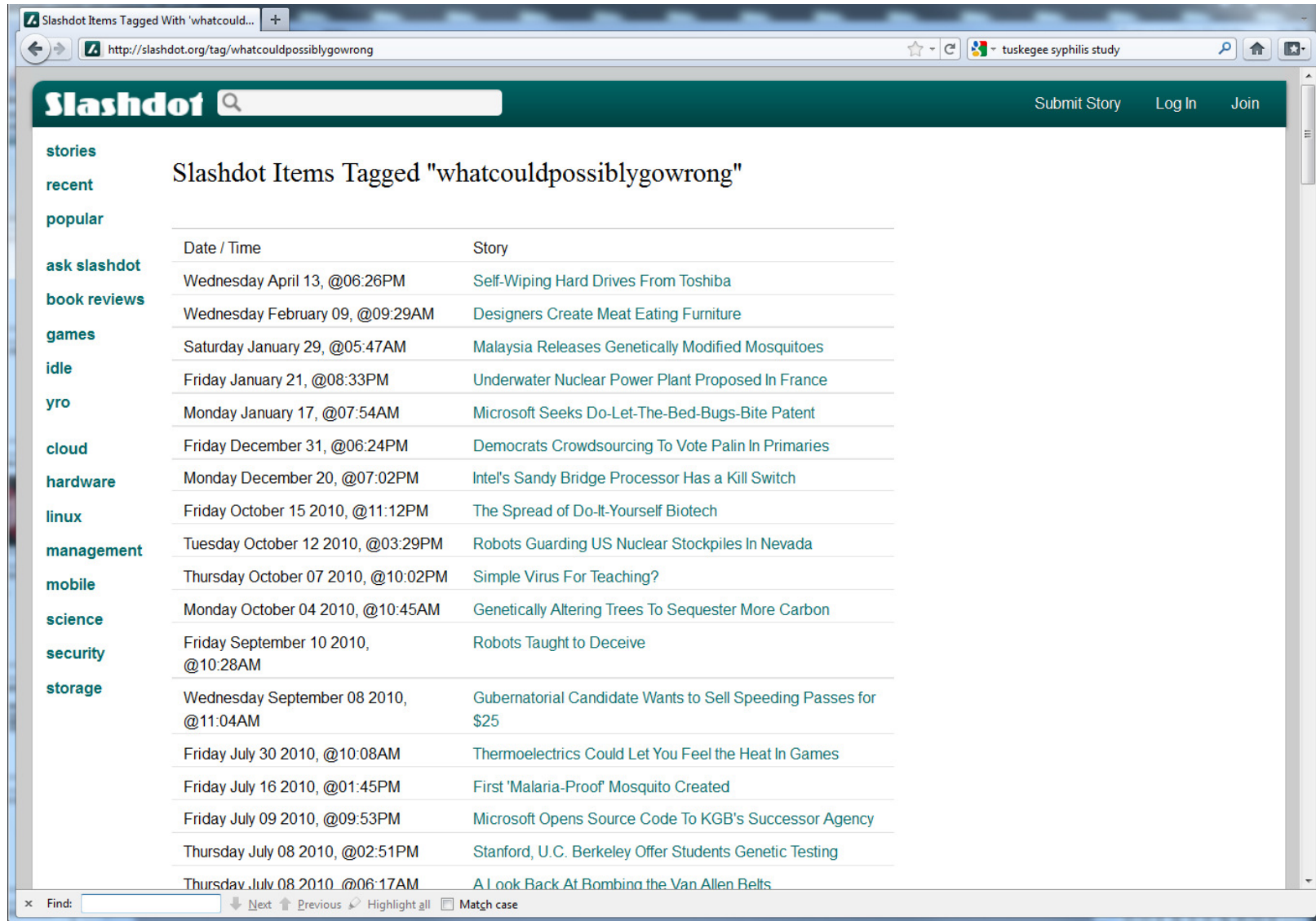
Voice Analysis Software in Russian ATMs

What Could Possibly Go Wrong



Cloud Computing

What Could Possibly Go Wrong



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `http://slashdot.org/tag/whatcouldpossiblygowrong`. The page title is "Slashdot Items Tagged 'whatcouldpossiblygowrong'". The left sidebar contains a list of categories: stories, recent, popular, ask slashdot, book reviews, games, idle, yro, cloud, hardware, linux, management, mobile, science, security, and storage. The main content area displays a table of items tagged with the specified keyword.

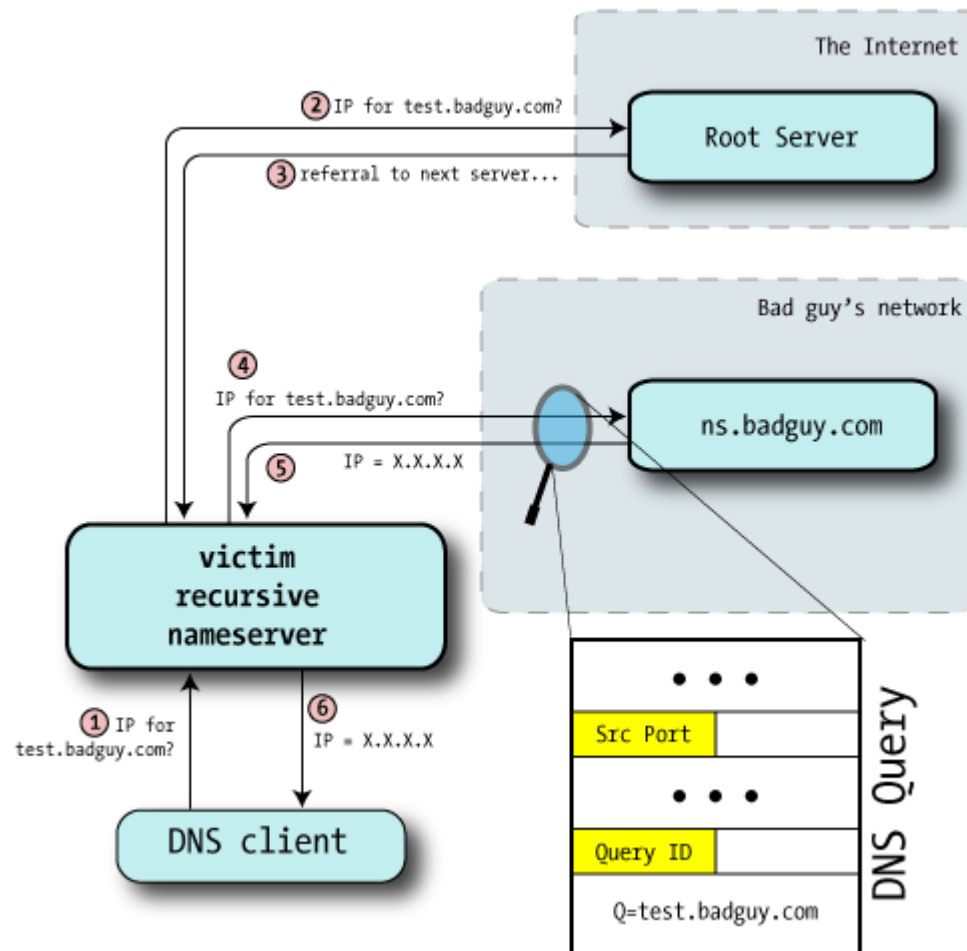
Date / Time	Story
Wednesday April 13, @06:26PM	Self-Wiping Hard Drives From Toshiba
Wednesday February 09, @09:29AM	Designers Create Meat Eating Furniture
Saturday January 29, @05:47AM	Malaysia Releases Genetically Modified Mosquitoes
Friday January 21, @08:33PM	Underwater Nuclear Power Plant Proposed In France
Monday January 17, @07:54AM	Microsoft Seeks Do-Let-The-Bed-Bugs-Bite Patent
Friday December 31, @06:24PM	Democrats Crowdsourcing To Vote Palin In Primaries
Monday December 20, @07:02PM	Intel's Sandy Bridge Processor Has a Kill Switch
Friday October 15 2010, @11:12PM	The Spread of Do-It-Yourself Biotech
Tuesday October 12 2010, @03:29PM	Robots Guarding US Nuclear Stockpiles In Nevada
Thursday October 07 2010, @10:02PM	Simple Virus For Teaching?
Monday October 04 2010, @10:45AM	Genetically Altering Trees To Sequester More Carbon
Friday September 10 2010, @10:28AM	Robots Taught to Deceive
Wednesday September 08 2010, @11:04AM	Gubernatorial Candidate Wants to Sell Speeding Passes for \$25
Friday July 30 2010, @10:08AM	Thermoelectrics Could Let You Feel the Heat In Games
Friday July 16 2010, @01:45PM	First 'Malaria-Proof' Mosquito Created
Friday July 09 2010, @09:53PM	Microsoft Opens Source Code To KGB's Successor Agency
Thursday July 08 2010, @02:51PM	Stanford, U.C. Berkeley Offer Students Genetic Testing
Thursday July 08 2010 @06:17AM	A Look Back At Bombing the Van Allen Belts

At the bottom of the page, there is a search bar with the text "Find:" and navigation links: "Next", "Previous", "Highlight all", and "Match case".

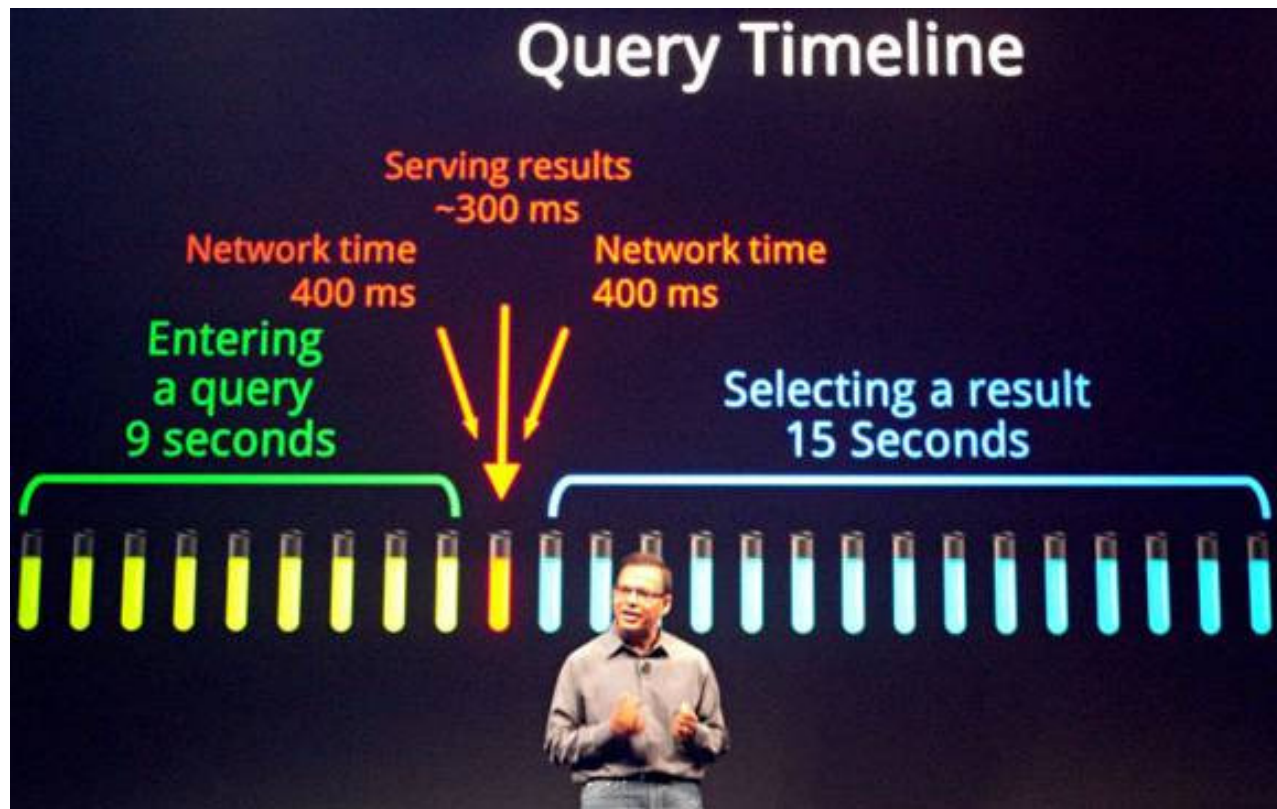
Look Under Rocks



Something Old



Something New



Google Makes Web Pages Load Instantly

The Chrome browser will soon silently fetch pages as you scan search results so that they load without delay.

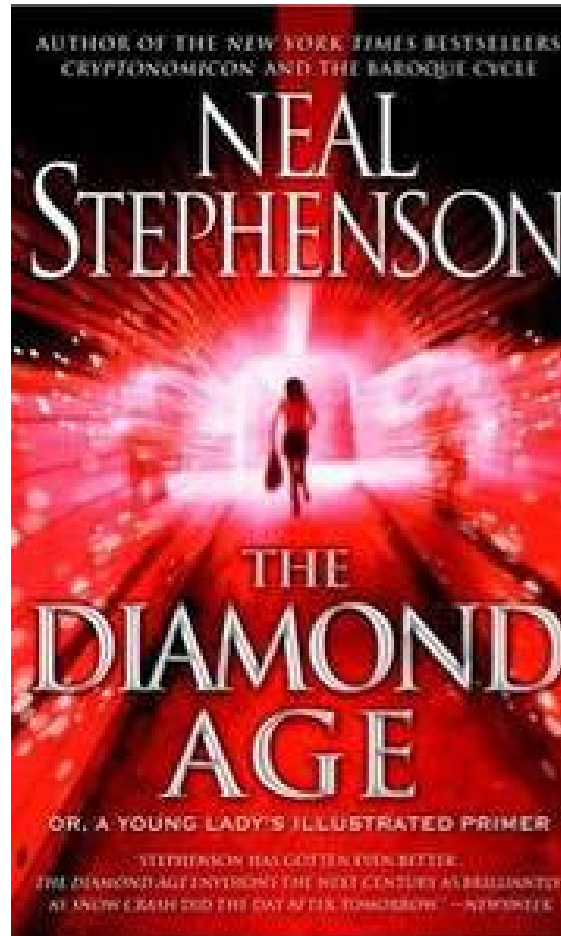
Extend / Generalize



For example, sensors...

“CCD Fingerprint
Method-Identification of
a Video Camera from
Videotaped Images” by
Kenji Kurosawa, Kenro
Kuroki, Naoki Saitoh

Look to Science Fiction



Assume the Worst in People



Real Player Spyware, 1999



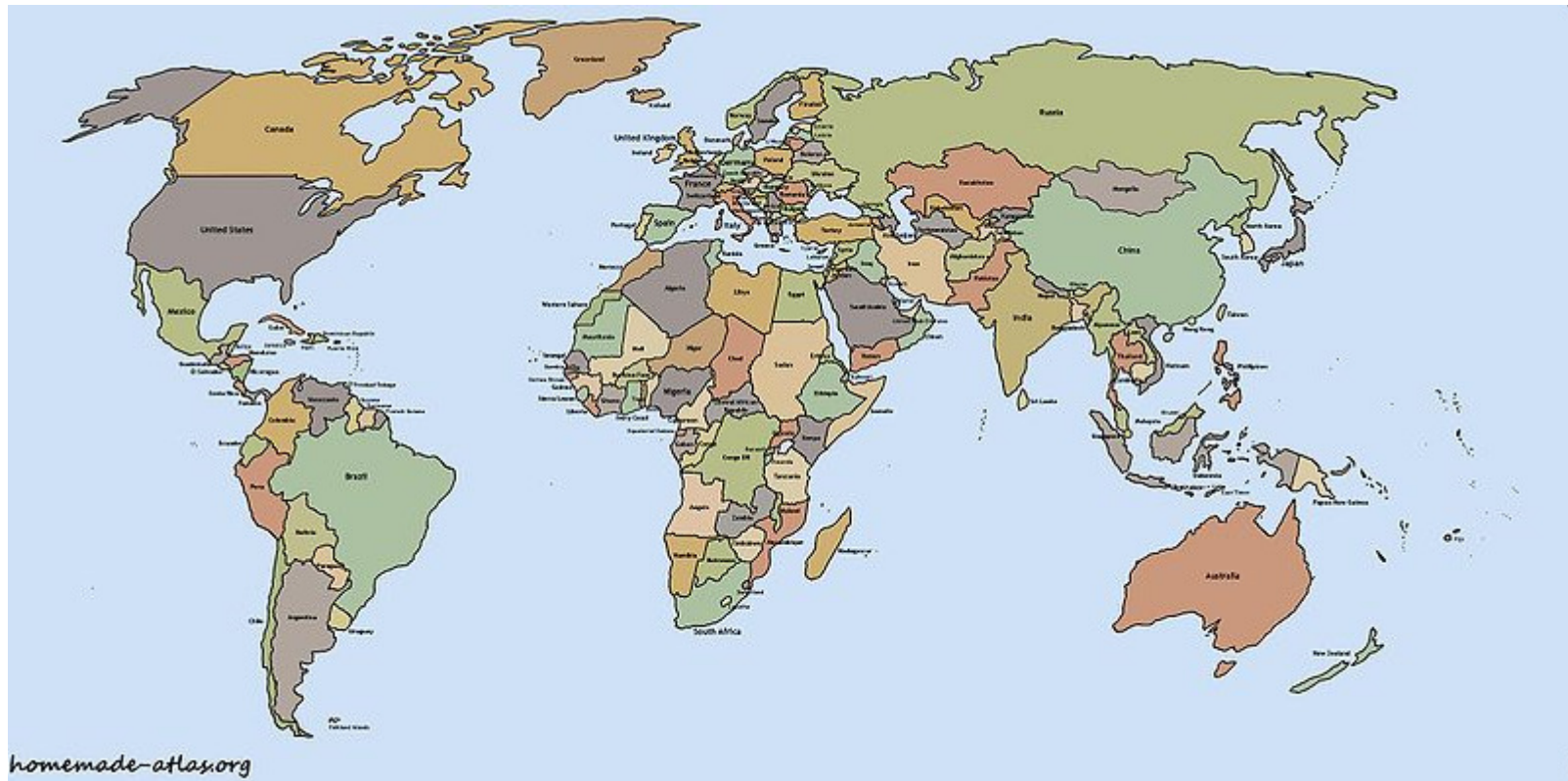
Sony Rootkit, 2005



Apple Location Database, 2011

- Look at *capabilities* and not what people, companies, or governments *say* they do
- Look at incentives

Think Like a Nation-State



Read the CFP

- Infection vectors for malware (worms, viruses, etc.)
- Botnets, command and control channels
- Spyware
- Operational experience and case studies
- Forensics
- Click fraud
- Measurement studies
- New threats and related challenges
- Boutique and targeted malware
- Phishing
- Spam
- Underground economy
- Miscreant counterintelligence
- Carding and identity theft
- Denial-of-service attacks
- Hardware vulnerabilities
- Legal issues
- The arms race (rootkits, anti-anti-virus, etc.)
- New platforms (cellular networks, wireless networks, mobile devices)
- Camouflage and detection
- Reverse engineering
- Vulnerability markets and zero-day economics
- Online money laundering
- Understanding the enemy
- Data collection challenges

USENIX Workshop on Large-Scale Exploits and Emergent Threats (LEET '11)

<http://www.usenix.org/events/leet11/cfp/>

Future Work

8 Extensions

Our study has shown that electromagnetic emanations of modern wired and wireless keyboards may be exploited from a distance to passively recover keystrokes. In this section, we detail some extensions and remarks.

The main limitation of these attacks concerns the trigger of the data acquisition. This can be improved with an independent process, using specific filters between the antenna and the ADC. Additionally, other compromising emanations such as the sound of the pressed key could be used as trigger. Furthermore, modern techniques such as beamforming could significantly improve the noise filtering.

Another improvement would be to simultaneously leverage multiple techniques. For keyboards that are vulnerable to more than one technique, we could correlate the results of the different techniques to reduce uncertainty in our guesses.

Another extension would be to accelerate these attacks with dedicated hardware. Indeed, the acquisition time (i.e. the transfer of the data to a computer), the filtering and decoding processes take time (about two seconds per keystroke). With dedicated system and hardware-based computation such as FPGAs, the acquisition, filtering and decoding processes can obviously be instantaneous (e.g. less than the minimum time between two keystrokes). However, the keystrokes distinguishing process when multiple keyboards are radiating is still difficult to implement especially for the Matrix Scan Technique, since the acquisition process should be continuous.

We spend time experimenting with different types of antennas and analog-to-digital converters. In particular, we used the USRP and the GNU Radio library to avoid the need of an oscilloscope and to obtain a portable version of the Modulation Technique. Indeed, we can hide the USRP with battery and a laptop in a bag, the antenna can be replaced by a simple wire of copper (one meter long) which is taped on the attacker's body hidden under his clothes. With this transportable setup, we are able to recover keystrokes from vulnerable keyboards stealthily. However the eavesdropping range is less than two meters.

Martin Vuagnoux
and Sylvain Pasin.
“Compromising
Electromagnetic
Emanations of
Wired and Wireless
Keyboards.”
USENIX Security,
2009.

A Good Survey Article or Paper is Always in Demand



And is an important part of your research program

And More

- Work with someone else
 - Consider edge and corner cases
 - Examine implementations
 - Hardware is the new software
 - Exploit cloud resources
 - Defcon / BH / RSA talks
- ...

Develop a System

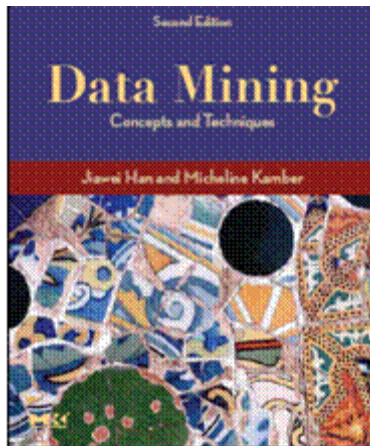
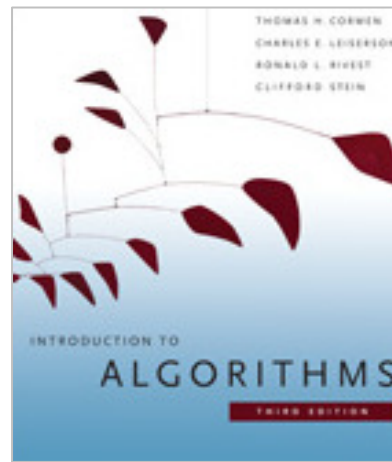
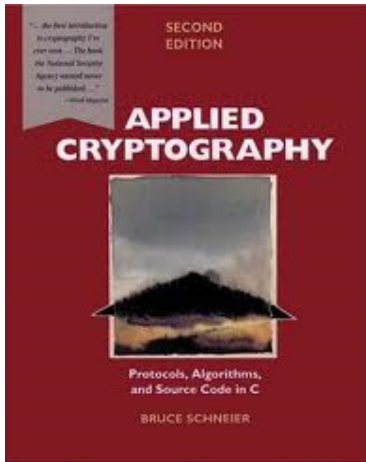
Feed your Mind



Museum of Modern Art, NY

- Have analog hobbies
 - Lathe and wizards wands
- Got to take mind off work
- Choose diverse sources
 - Slashdot
 - Wired
 - Technology Review
 - ...
- Books
- Magazines
 - IEEE S&P
 - Make
 - ...
- Mailing Lists
- IEEE Cipher
- Blogs

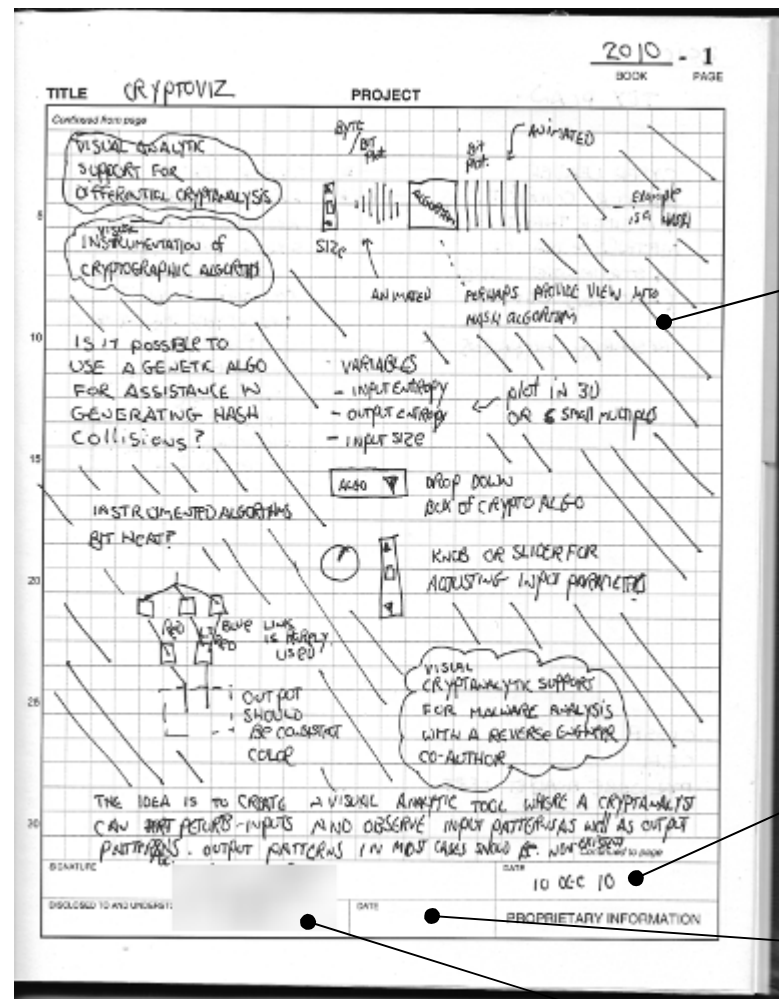
Build up your toolset



- Coding
- Hardware
- Advanced Techniques
 - Datamining
 - Visualization
 - Information Theory
 - ...
- Speed reading
- Communicating
 - Writing
 - Public Speaking

Write Down Your Ideas

- Document discoveries: Capture exact details and dates of conception
- Be able to reproduce your work
- Record ideas, observations, and results
- Chronological record of your work
- Use permanent Ink
- Never remove pages



Fill Unused Space

Date

Your Signature

Witness Signature

Source: www.bookfactory.com

Other Techniques



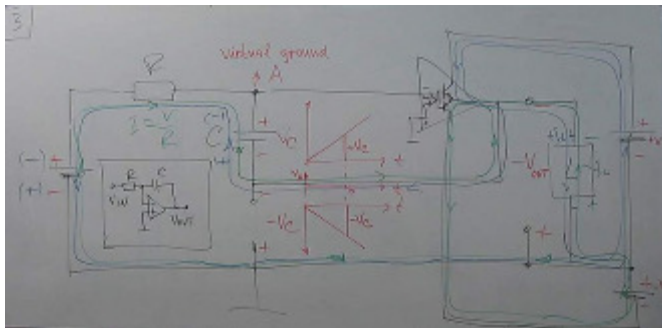
Giant Pads of Paper



Giant Post-it Notes



Digital Voice Recorder



White Board



Smart Board

Watch for New Pieces of Information



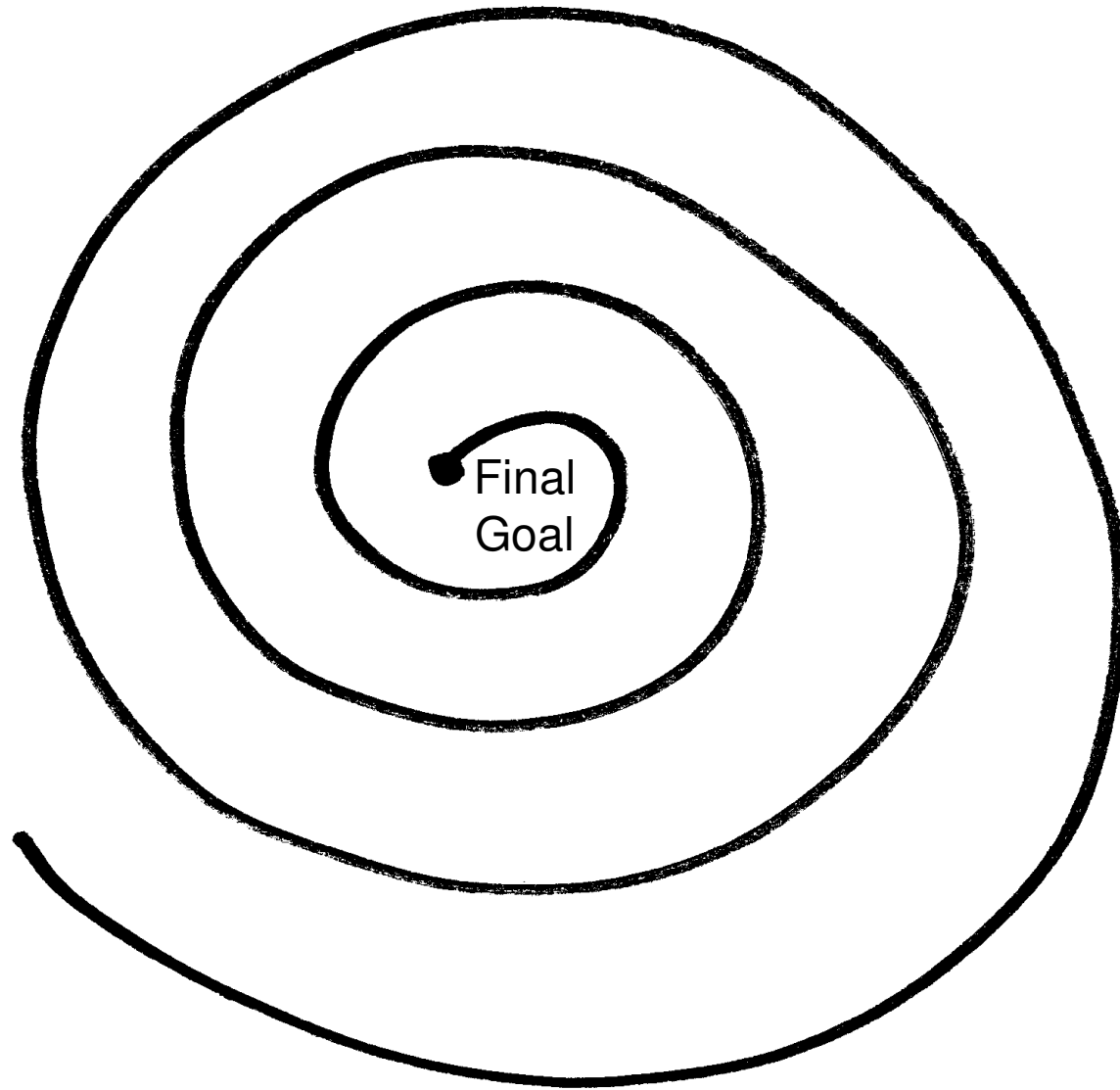
Choosing the Right Problem



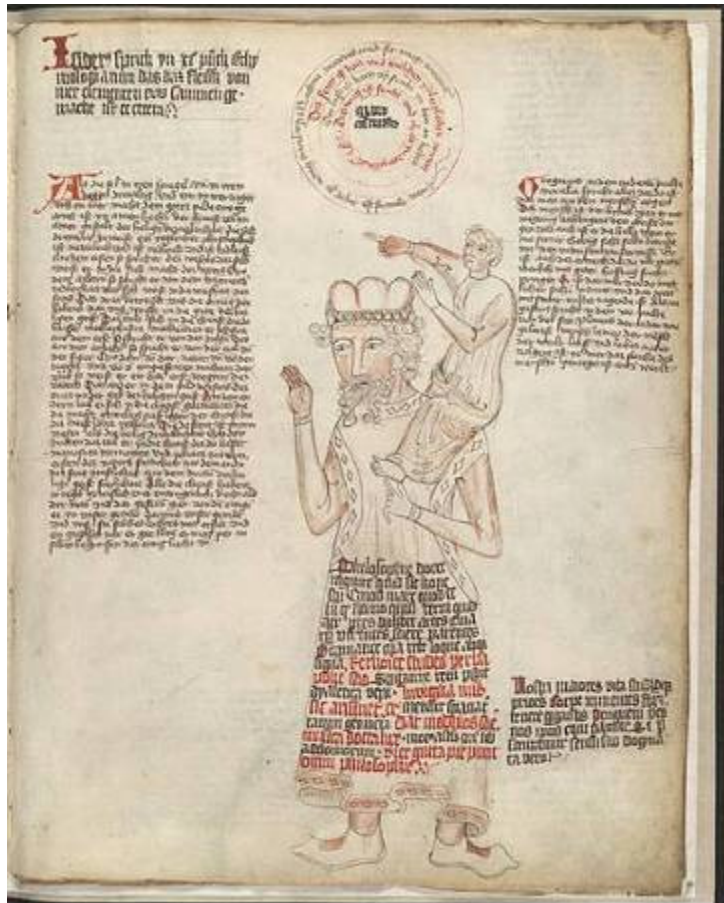
Don't Rediscover Fire

- Life is short
- Something you are passionate about
- Ability to get traction
- Idea maturity
 - Not too early
 - Not too late
- Develop many in parallel
- Who pays your bills

Chip Away at the Problem

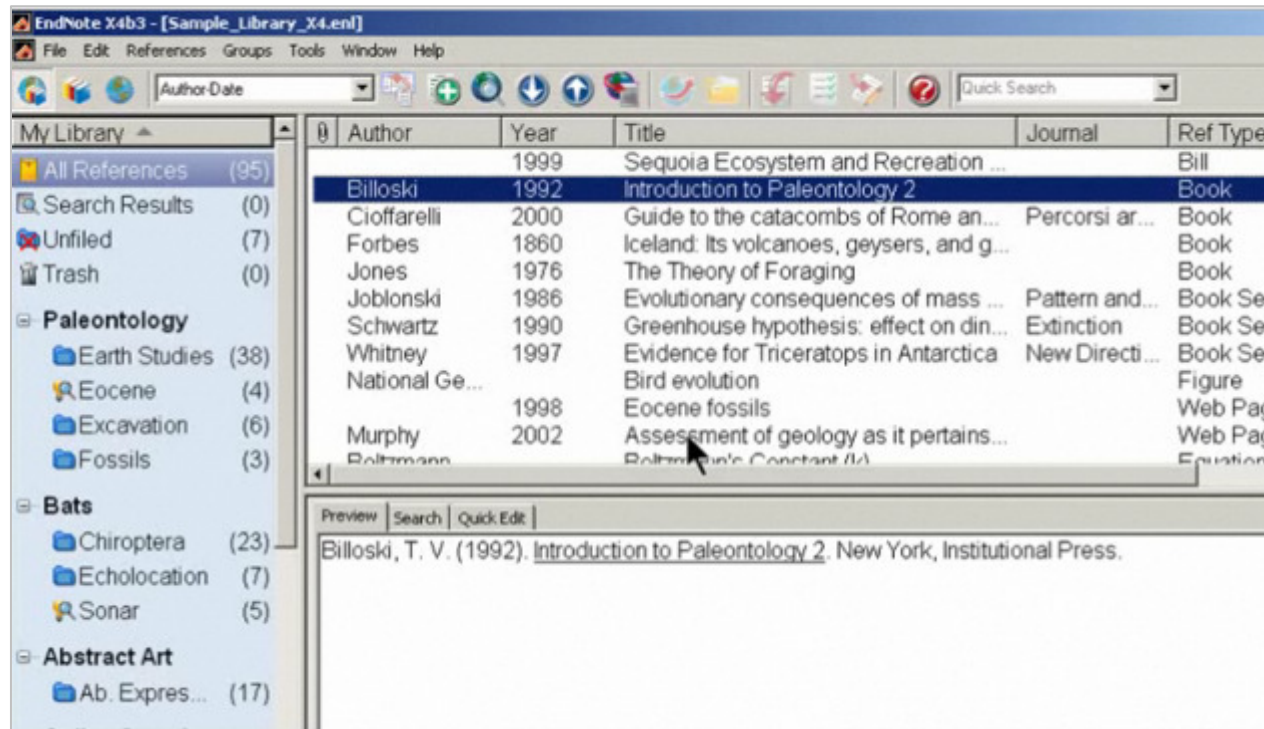


Build on What Others Have Done



- Avoid duplication
- Help energize your work
- Give credit where credit is due
- Paywalls
 - 80% is probably publicly available
 - email authors
 - friend in college with DL subscription, web search

Reference Management



Lots of choices... Aigaion, Bebo, BibDesk, Biblioscape, BibSonomy, Bibus, Bookends, Citavi, CiteULike, Connotea, EndNote, JabRef, Jumper 2.0, KBibTeX, Mendeley, Papers, PDF Stacks, Pybliographer, Qiqqa, rebase, RefDB, Reference Manager, Referencer, RefWorks, Scholar's Aid, Sente, Wikindx, WizFolio, Zotero

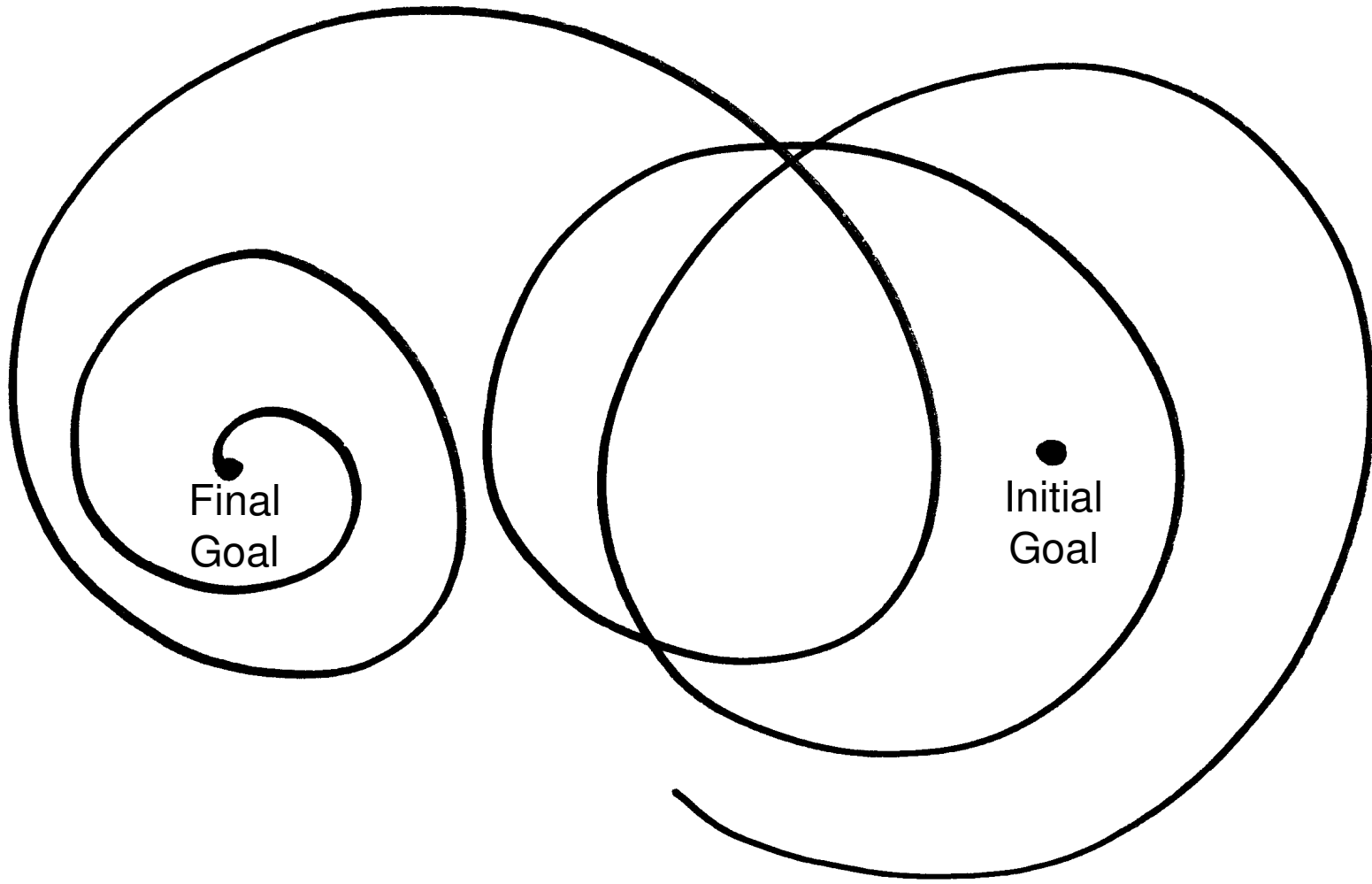
See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_reference_management_software

Organize your Data



- Versioning
 - `yyyymm_name_verXX`
- The mess I created
 - 1M+ binary fragments
- Backing up
 - WTC

The Target May Move



Re(Search)



- Blind alleys
- Knowing something doesn't work is also knowledge

Get Feedback

- Peers
 - Panels
 - Regional Cons
 - Groups at work
 - DC groups / 2600 Gatherings
-
- Each makes you stronger and fleshes out the idea

Collaborate

>How can I get in touch with you?

You can write to me in care of my publishers. They will then compost your letter, allow it to ferment for several months, and eventually send it to me. I will then neglect to reply, no doubt suffering an incremental increase in negative karma. It's up to you.

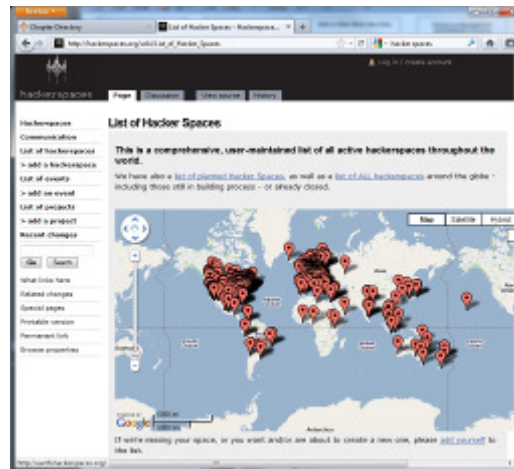
-William Gibson

- You probably don't want to contact William Gibson
- Google Docs
- Building a team / Research group
- But remember the mythical man month

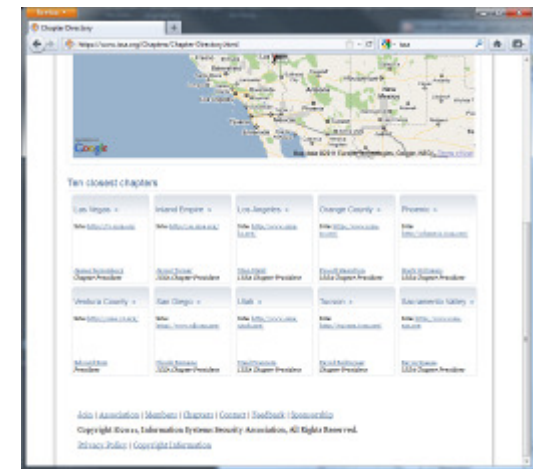
Start Local



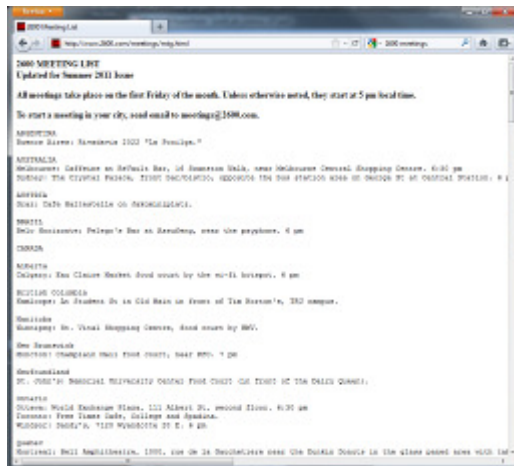
DC Groups



Hacker Spaces



ISSA



2600 Meetings



LUGs

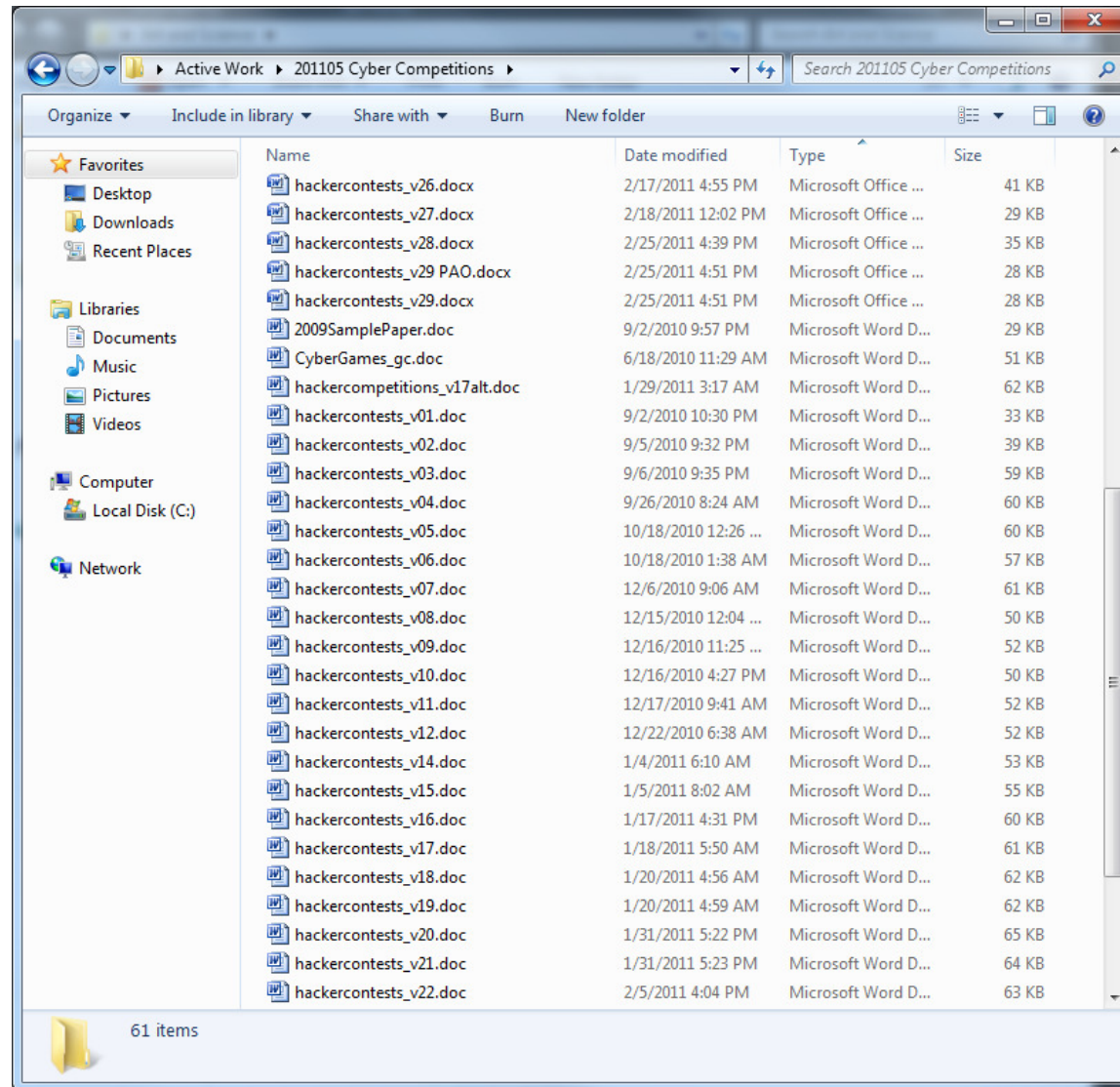


Colleges

Coping with Infinity



Write and Rewrite



Author Guidelines



ScholarOne Manuscripts: Author Center

The Author Center provides details on what *IEEE Security & Privacy* magazine requires when submitting a manuscript for review. from the menu below for information on

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Editorial Calendars

Magazine	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
IT Professional	Cloud Computing View CFP		Nontheme		Health IT		IT in Emerging Markets		Mobile & Wireless Technologies		Social Computing	
Micro	Hot Interconnects		Hot Chips		Top Picks							
Security & Privacy	Authentication Technologies		Security and Training Education									
Software	Algorithms and Today's Practitioner View CFP		Software Engineering for Cloud Computing View CFP		Software Engineering Compliance							
Annals of the History of Computing	Microcircuitry History			Nontheme			Nontheme			History of RDBMs		
MultiMedia	Multimedia in Forensics, Security, and Intelligence View CFP						Large-Scale Multimedia Data Collections View CFP					
Pervasive Computing	20 Years after Weiser's Vision			Pervasive I/O			Pervasive ICT 4D					

2012 IEEE Computer Society (Extract)

Look at What Editor's Change

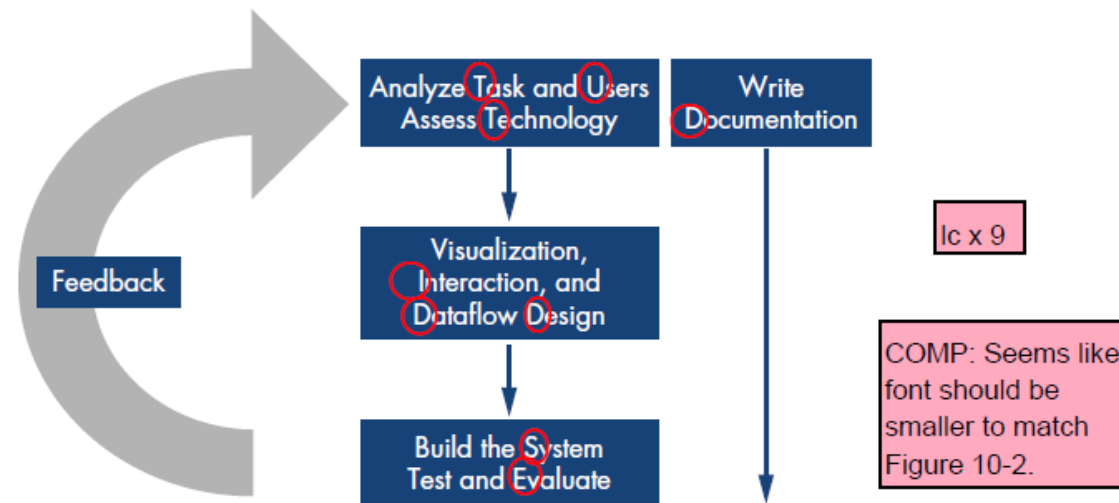
AU: I think "tightly coupled into" sounds a little awkward. Could we change this to "woven into" or something similar? The common phrase is "tightly coupled with" but I don't think that really makes sense here.

into the visualization system. The best systems begin the design process by analyzing users and their tasks and then use these insights to guide the entire development process. It is important to note that system design is an iterative process that regularly takes into account user feedback (see Figure 10-1). By continually taking into account users and tasks, project designers reach the goals of reduced training time, more efficient task completion, reduced error rate, and increased system adoption. Your ultimate aim should be an efficient and effective system that is satisfying, even pleasurable, to use.

analyze

bad break

delete



at any step should inform your

Figure 10-1: Overview of this chapter's visualization system design process. Feedback from any step should cause a refinement of the preceding steps.

Getting to Cruising Altitude



Neal Stephenson
“Why I am a Bad Correspondent”

“Writing novels is hard, and requires vast, unbroken slabs of time. Four quiet hours is a resource that I can put to good use.”

“Two slabs of time, each two hours long, might add up to the same four hours, but are not nearly as productive as an unbroken four.”

“If I know that I am going to be interrupted, I can't concentrate, and if I suspect that I might be interrupted, I can't do anything at all.”

Major Life Events



“No mathematician should ever allow himself to forget that mathematics, more than any other art or science, is a young man's game.”

G.H. Hardy
A Mathematician's Apology



<http://www.slate.com/id/2082960/>

<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fliegergriff01.jpg>

<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:%E3%82%BD%E3%83%95%E3%82%A3%E3%82%B9%E3%82%AB%E3%83%A4%E5%AF%BA%E9%99%A2%E3%83%BB%E8%81%96%E7%B4%A2%E8%8F%B2%E4%BA%9C%E6%95%99%E5%A0%82%E7%B5%90%E5%A9%9A%E5%BC%8F%E8%A8%98%E5%BF%B5%E5%86%99%E7%9C%9F.jpg>

Find a Place Where You are Creative



Interesting meetings, classes and talks



Boring meetings, classes and talks



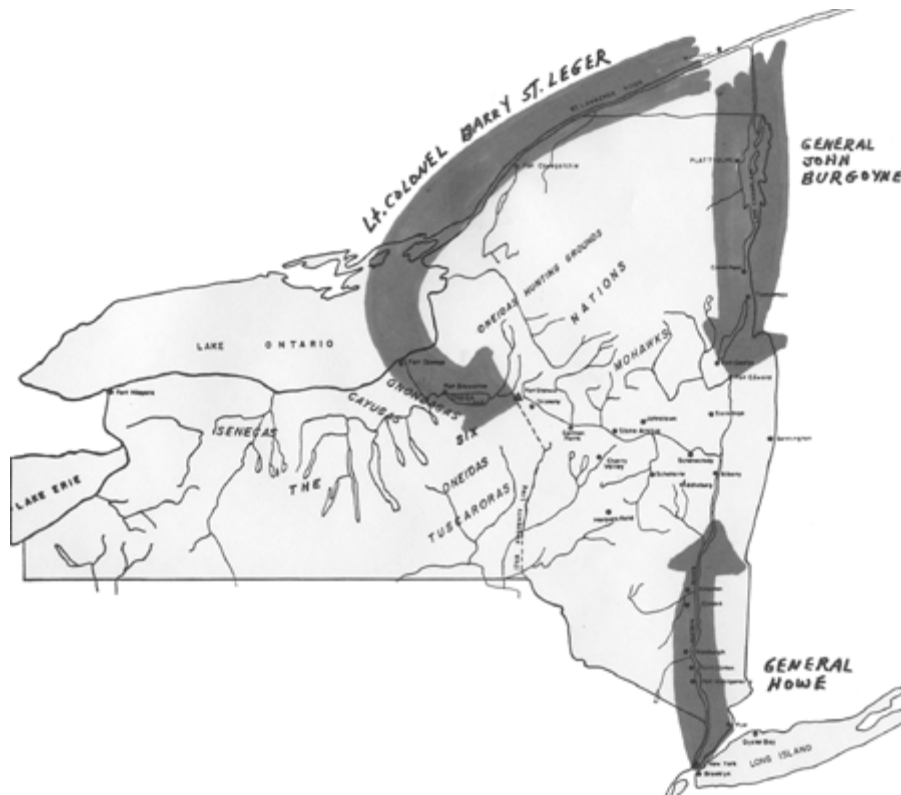
Airports / Airplanes



Mall Food Courts / Restaurants / Pubs

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/shootingsaw/2767119981/sizes/m/in/photostream/>
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Melbourne_Airport_terminal.jpg
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Food_court_edo_japan_la_belle_province_basha.jpg

Think in Terms of Research Campaigns



- Long Term
- Inform decision makers
- Communicate with different audiences
- Research vision

Research Funding



Thai Buddhist “Money Trees”

- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)
 - <http://www.sbir.gov>
- NSF
- DARPA
- ...
- Lots of metawork
- Lots strings usually attached
- Lots of competition

DARPA Cyber Fast Track

ShmooCon 2011: Keynote: Analytic Framework for Cyber Security

ChRiStiaN008 6,062 videos



- Designed to make research funding available for boutique security companies and hackerspaces
- Watch <https://www.fbo.gov/> for details
- Also see the ShmooCon 2011 Keynote at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDP6A5NMeA4>

Methodology, Etiquette and Rules of the Road

Scientific Method

1. Ask a question
2. Do background research
3. Construct a hypothesis
4. Test your hypothesis by doing an experiment
5. Analyze your data and draw a conclusion
6. Report your results (Was your hypothesis correct?)





Rigor and Merit

(NSF Review Criteria)

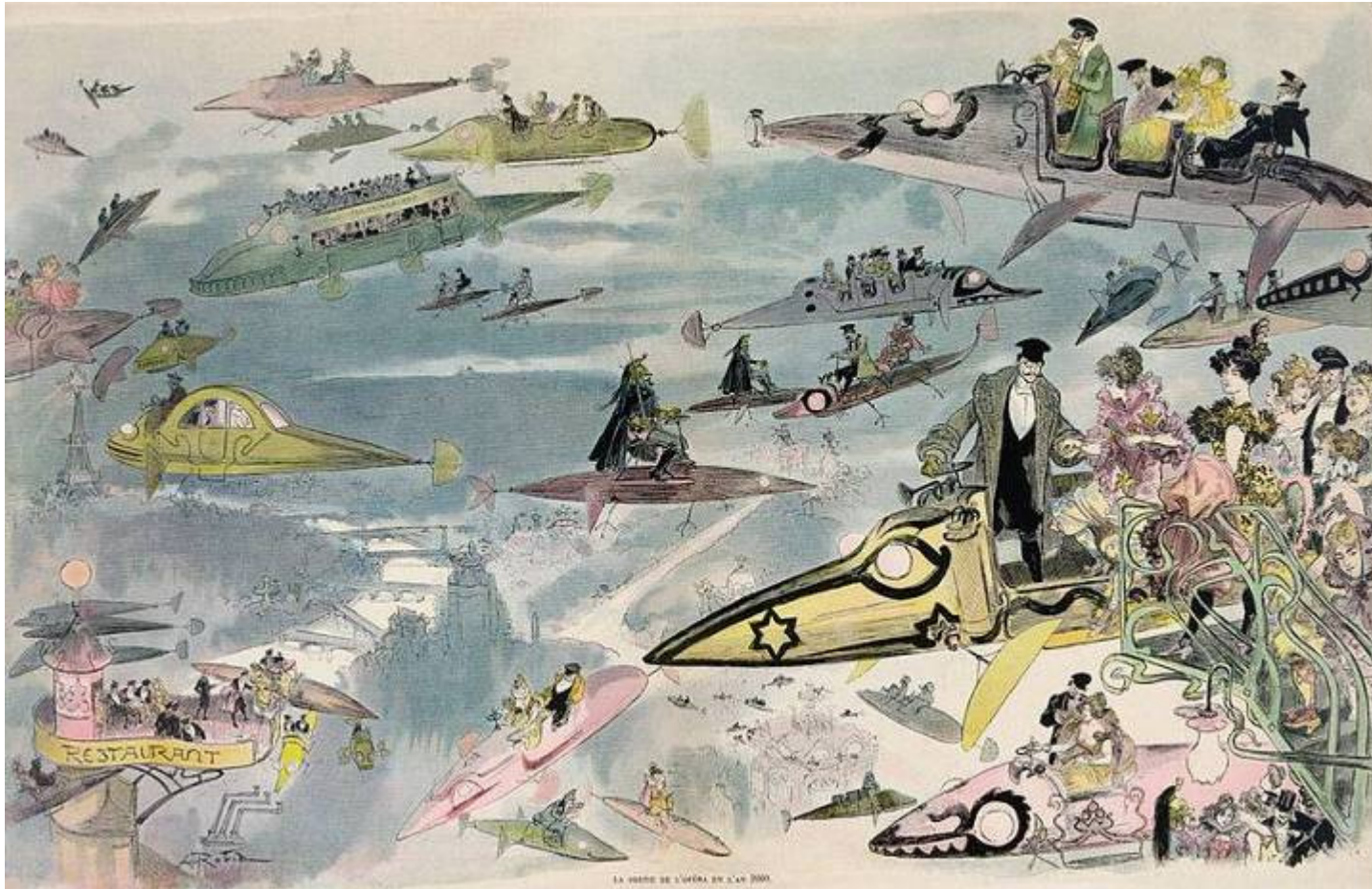
Intellectual Merit

- How important is the activity to advancing knowledge and understanding?
- How qualified is the proposer?
- Does the project explore creative, original or transformative concepts?
- How well conceived and organized is the project?
- Is there sufficient access to resources?

Broader Impacts

- Does the activity advance discovery and understanding?
- While promoting teaching, training, and learning?
- Include participation by underrepresented groups?
- Will the results be disseminated broadly?
- What are the benefits to society?

Collisions in IdeaSpace



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_multiple_discoveries

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sortie_de_l%27op%C3%A9ra_en_l%27an_2000-2.jpg

Institutional Review Board (IRB)

TUSKEGEE SYPHILIS STUDY (1932-1972)

- US Public Health Service research
- 600 low-income African-American males from rural Alabama with a high incidence of syphilis infection, were monitored for 40 years.
- Subjects were given free medical examinations, but they were not told about their disease.
- Even though a proven cure (penicillin) became available in the 1950s, the study continued until 1972 with participants and their families being denied treatment.
- In some cases, when subjects were diagnosed as having syphilis by other physicians, researchers intervened to prevent treatment.
- The study was stopped in 1973 by the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare only after its existence was exposed in a newspaper story, and it became a political embarrassment.
- In 1997, President Clinton apologized to the study subjects and their families.

- Approves, monitors and reviews research involving human subjects.
- Response to research abuses in the 20th century, including Nazi experimentation and the Tuskegee Syphilis Study.
- If you are dealing with human subjects, you may need IRB approval.



Responsible Disclosure



Siege of Ascalon - 1153

- Admittedly a Holy war
- How long to wait before disclosing a vulnerability
- Social responsibility vs. false security

Keep your Personal Research Distinct from Work



ITF-1a: Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Agreement – Individual

PERSONAL CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

I acknowledge that the New York City School Construction Authority ("SCA") will make available to me from time to time certain information that is highly confidential to the SCA. For example, this information includes, without limiting the kinds of information to these examples, software and other computer information licensed to the SCA, bidding information related to various contracts of the SCA, proprietary information about various businesses that would perform work on the SCA's behalf, and the work product of the SCA's employees and agents. I invite the SCA to entrust me as a fiduciary of the SCA with access to, and with the use of, such confidential information from time to time. I shall hold all of the SCA's confidential information at all times in trust and strictest confidence for the SCA from and after the date of its creation or disclosure to me. I shall prevent the impermissible release of the SCA's confidential information. I shall not retain nor incorporate any of the confidential information into any database or any medium than may be required for the SCA's exclusive benefit. I covenant not to use SCA's confidential information for my own benefit or for the benefit of anyone else that is inconsistent with the interests of the SCA. Finally, I shall not duplicate or disclose or otherwise reveal such confidential information in any manner inconsistent with this agreement.

I agree to read each SCA policy and procedure related to the use of confidential information, including, without limitation, any on the use of SCA computers. I agree to be bound by each such policy and procedure.

I acknowledge that my faithful compliance with this agreement, and the related policies and procedures, is necessary to protect the SCA and that any action on my part that is inconsistent with this agreement or with any SCA policy and procedure will cause the SCA irreparable and continuing harm. Therefore, if anything I do is inconsistent with this agreement or any such policy and procedure, I consent to the SCA obtaining a court order to stop my inconsistent actions and otherwise to prevent any, without the SCA having to post any bond or security for such order. The SCA may pursue other remedies available to it, all of which are nonexclusive and cumulative.

- Use your own time, hardware, software
- Read your employment contract carefully and any NDAs carefully
- Don't let your personal work touch your employers resources.
- Smart employers/schools will respect your personal IP

Misc

- No dual submissions
- Academic conferences probably don't pay travel or an honorarium for speakers/panelists
- Avoid asking people out of the blue to read your paper/article, a thoughtful question or two is much better
- Authors are typically sequenced from first author (biggest contribution) to Nth author (least contribution)
- "Authors" don't need to write a word
- Sole author
- When in doubt, acknowledge or cite
- People get weird when you write up their "ideas" or work
- With some research, discretion is advised
 - Even when drunk
 - Especially when the research is someone else's

A bit about Academia...

Academia is a Lot Like RE/MAX



Academia and Industry



- Follow the money
 - Research grants
 - Fads
 - Customers with money
- Industry
 - Must make case for bottom line
- Your advantages
 - Passion

Academia



- Academic Rank
 - Instructor
 - Assistant Professor
 - Associate Professor
 - Tenure usually starts here
 - Professor
- Ranking of school != ranking of a given program
- Time
 - BS, 4 years
 - MS, 1-2 years
 - Usually requires BS, but I've seen exceptions
 - PhD, 4-7 years
 - Can pick up MS along the way
- Finish your degree, then cure cancer (Clark Ray)

Outputs

Sharing Your Work and Leaving Artifacts Behind



- Slides
- Code
 - Documented Code
- Software
 - Documentation
- Hardware
 - Documentation
- Data
- Video / Audio
- Website / Blog
- White Paper
- Magazine Article
- Research Paper
- Journal Article
- Book

Reproducibility



- Stradivari Violins
- Nepenthe
- Antikythera Mechanism
- Telharmonium
- Library of Alexandria
- Damascus Steel
- Silphium
- Roman Cement
- Greek Fire

Write Up Your Ideas

- Puts a timestamp on your work
- Helps make sure your work is known
- Strunk and White
 - Omit Unnecessary Words
- Magazine / journal articles
 - You don't have to publish
 - Read authors' guidelines
 - Doesn't hurt if you already subscribe
- It is all about good fit

Publication

- Getting published is not a problem.
- Getting published in the right place is the goal.
- One good paper is better than several fluffy ones.

Router: A Methodology for the Typical Unification of Access Points and Redundancy

Jeremy Stribling, Daniel Aguayo and Maxwell Krohn
Accepted at WMSCI 2005

Many physicists would agree that, had it not been for congestion control, the evaluation of web browsers might never have occurred. In fact, few hackers worldwide would disagree with the essential unification of voice-over-IP and public-private key pair. In order to solve this riddle, we confirm that SMPs can be made stochastic, cacheable, and interposable.

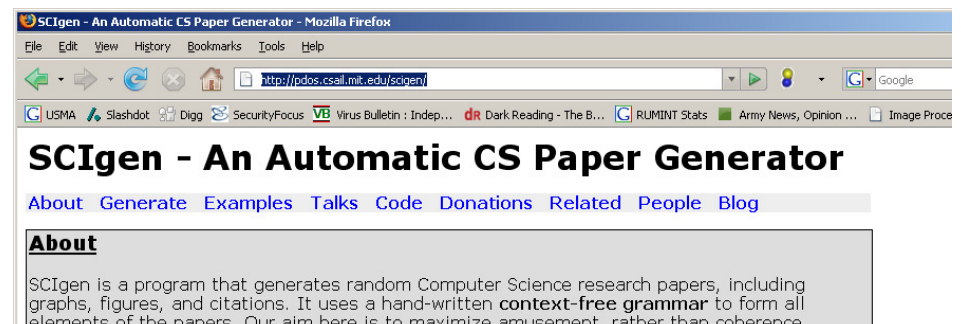
Router: A Methodology for the Typical Unification of Access Points and Redundancy

Jeremy Stribling, Daniel Aguayo and Maxwell Krohn

ABSTRACT

Many physicists would agree that, had it not been for congestion control, the evaluation of web browsers might never have occurred. In fact, few hackers worldwide would disagree

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. For starters, we motivate the need for fiber-optic cables. We place our work in context with the prior work in this area. To address this obstacle, we disprove that even though the much-



Academic Security Conferences

6/ 6/11- 6/ 8/11: [POLICY](#), Pisa, Italy;
6/ 6/11: [ACSAC](#), Walt Disney World Resort, FL;
6/ 6/11: [CRiSIS](#) Timisoara, Romania;
6/ 7/11- 6/10/11: [ACNS](#); Malaga, Spain;
6/ 7/11- 6/ 9/11: [IFIP-SEC](#), Luzern Switzerland;
6/10/11: [EuroPKI](#) Leuven, Belgium;
6/10/11: [DSPSR](#), Melbourne, Australia;
6/14/11- 6/17/11: [WiSec](#), Hamburg Germany
6/15/11: [S&P Workshops](#), SF bay area, CA;
6/15/11: [SOFSEM-CryptoTrack](#) Czech Republic;
6/15/11- 6/17/11: [SACMAT](#), Innsbruck, Austria;
6/15/11- 6/17/11: [USENIX-ATC](#), Portland, OR;
6/19/11: [FAST](#); Leuven, Belgium;
6/20/11: [DSPAN](#), Lucca, Italy;
6/20/11: [FCS](#), Toronto, Ontario, Canada ;
6/22/11- 6/24/11: [TRUST](#), Pittsburgh, PA;
6/26/11- 6/28/11: [RFIDSec](#), Amherst, MA;
6/27/11: [STC](#) Chicago, IL;
6/27/11- 6/29/11: [ICSECS](#), Kuantan, Malaysia;
6/27/11- 6/29/11: [CSF](#), France ;
6/27/11- 6/28/11: [STM](#), Copenhagen, Denmark;
6/27/11: [DRM](#), Chicago, IL;
6/28/11- 6/30/11: [F2GC](#), Crete, Greece;
6/28/11- 6/30/11: [IWCS](#), Crete, Greece;
6/29/11- 7/ 1/11: [IFIPTM](#), Copenhagen Denmark;
6/30/11: [FCC](#), Paris, France;
6/30/11: [TrustCom](#) Changsha China;

... 75 More

Publication Hierarchy

- Poster Session
 - Technical Report
 - Workshop
 - Conference / Symposium
 - Journal
-
- Also, Magazines, Books, and Book Chapters, Technical Reviewer, White Papers, Panels, Talks

Hierarchies within Hierarchies

Top Tier Security Conferences

- IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy
- ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security
- Crypto
- Eurocrypt
- Usenix Security

Dear XXX,

I am writing on behalf of the German publishing house, VDM Verlag Dr. Müller AG & Co. KG. In the course of a research on the Internet, I came across a reference to your thesis on "YYY".

We are a German-based publisher whose aim is to make academic research available to a wider audience.

VDM Verlag would be especially interested in publishing your dissertation in the form of a printed book.

Your reply including an e-mail address to which I can send an e-mail with further information in an attachment will be greatly appreciated.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

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Sebastien Latreille

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Structure of a Research Paper

- Title / Author List /Abstract
- Background and Motivation
- Related Work
- Design
- Implementation
- Evaluation
- Analysis
- Conclusions
- Future Work

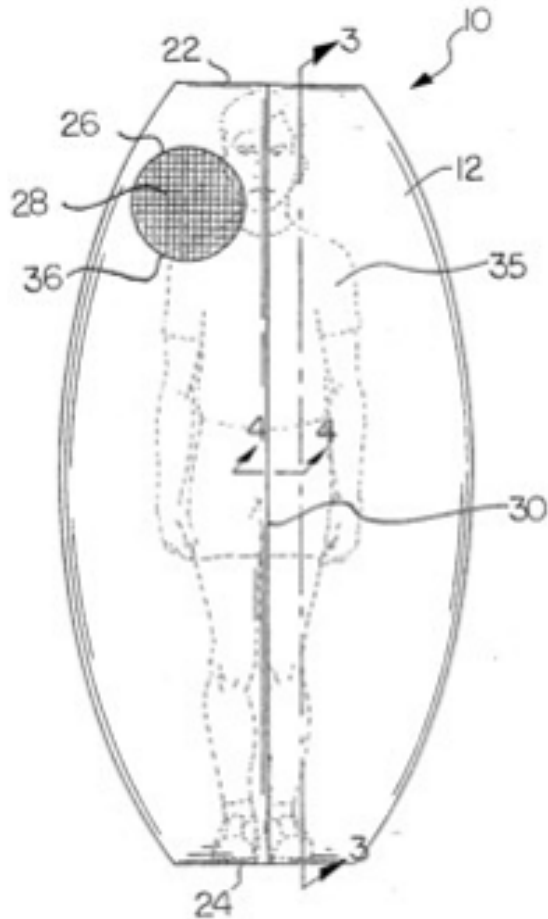
Or...



Self Publishing in the Underground
Defcon 15

- Publish it yourself
- Self-publish a book
- Start your own conference
- Seek your own patent(s) and trademarks
- Start your own business

Patents



US Patent 5,571,247
Self Contained Enclosure for
Protection from Killer Bees

- Cost
- Time
- Profit
- Documentation
- “Closed Source”

Parting Thoughts

Don't Self Censor



Good research is often disruptive to the status quo.
Don't be afraid to choose something controversial.

Help Others



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Helping_Hands_sculpture,_Mandela_Gardens,_Leeds_-_DSC07711.JPG

Believe in Yourself



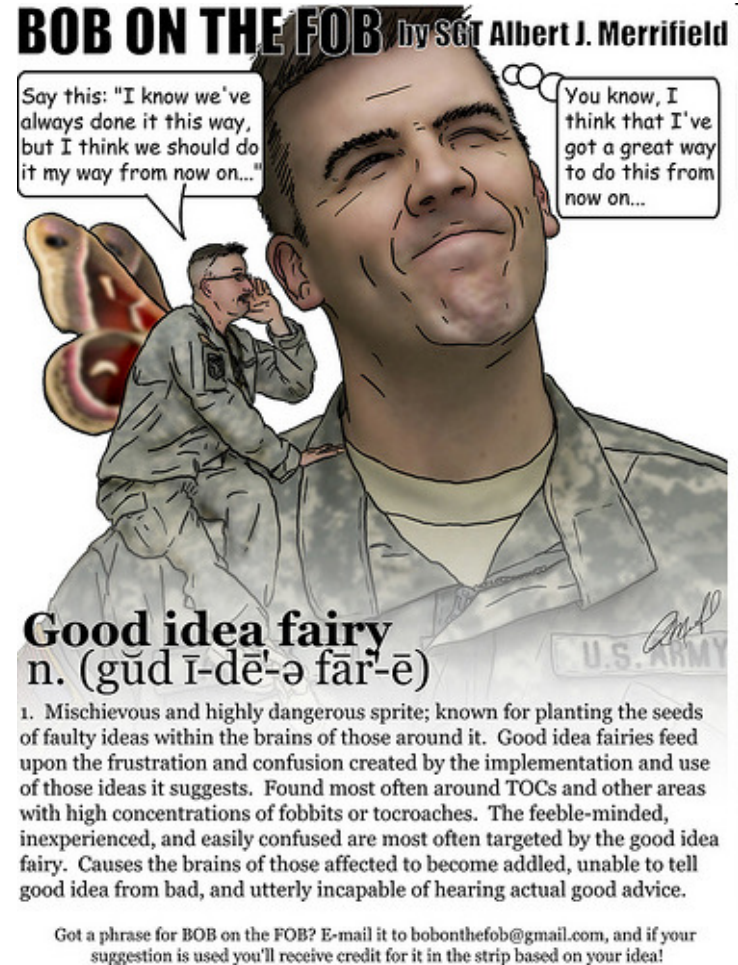
The research space isn't as crowded as you'd think,
and your kung-fu is strong

Develop a Sense for Open Problems

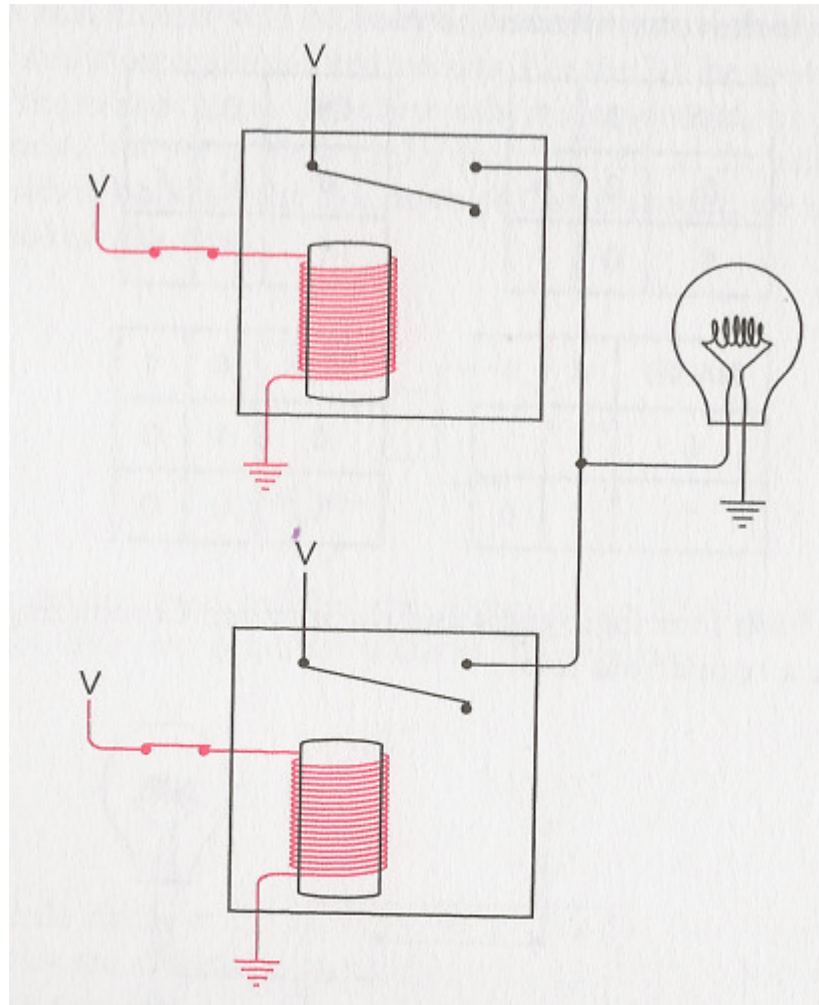


The Good Idea Fairy

Working on your own ideas is probably more fun than working on someone else's.



Keep Pulling the Thread

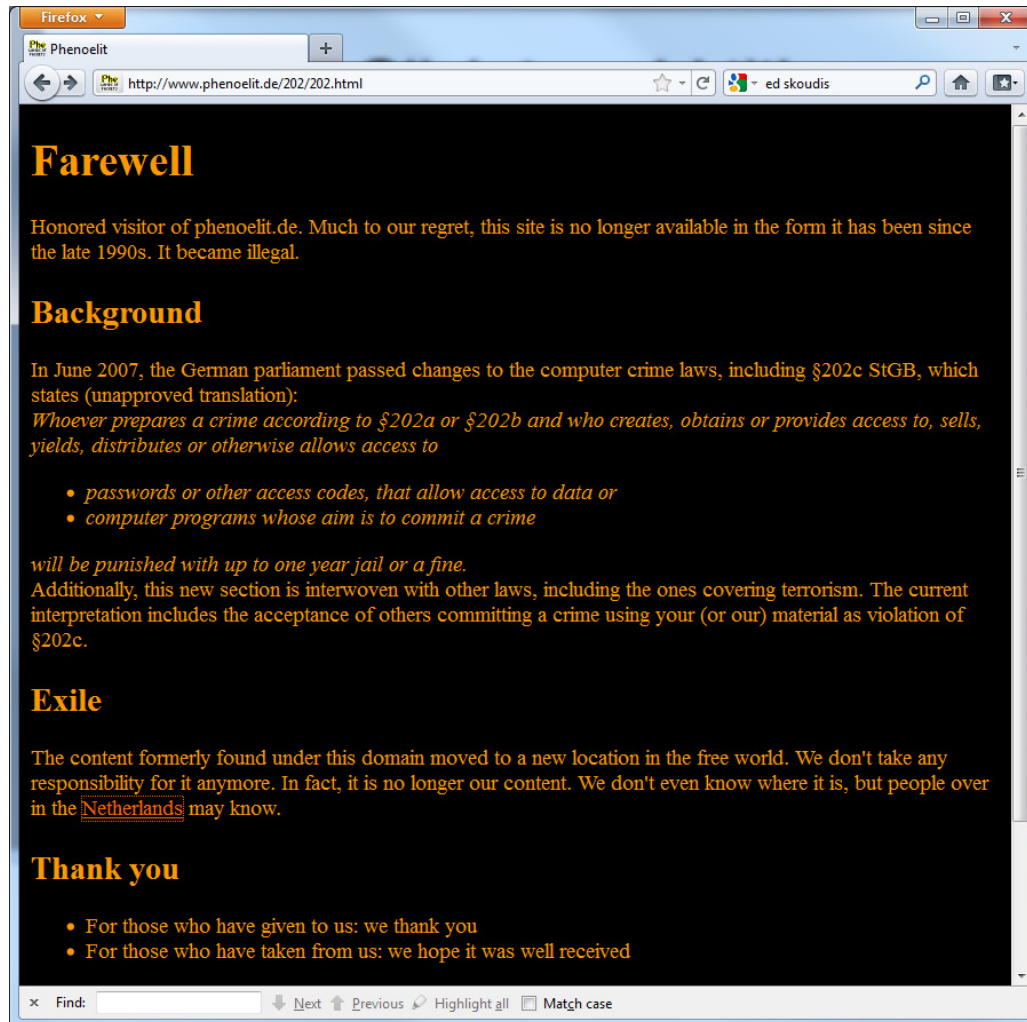


NAND gate built from relays

Balance Inputs, Processing and Outputs



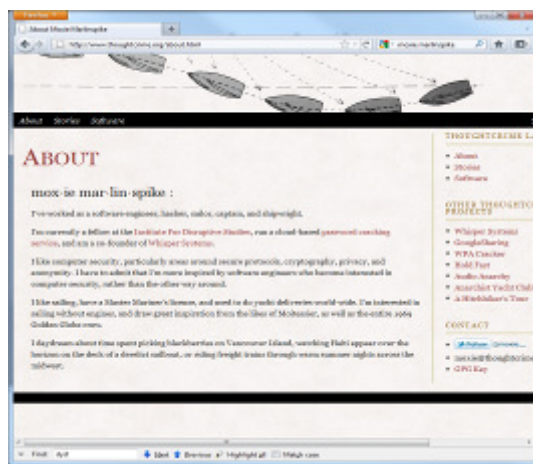
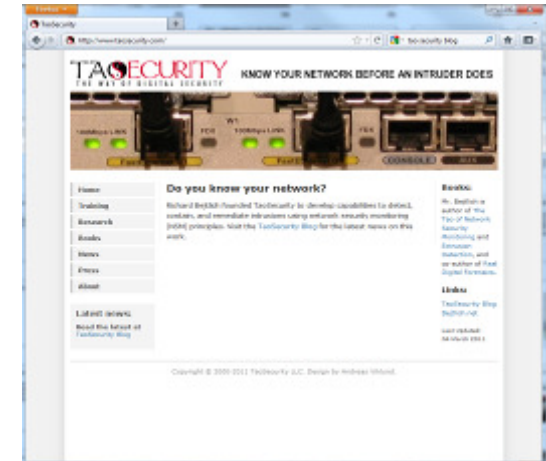
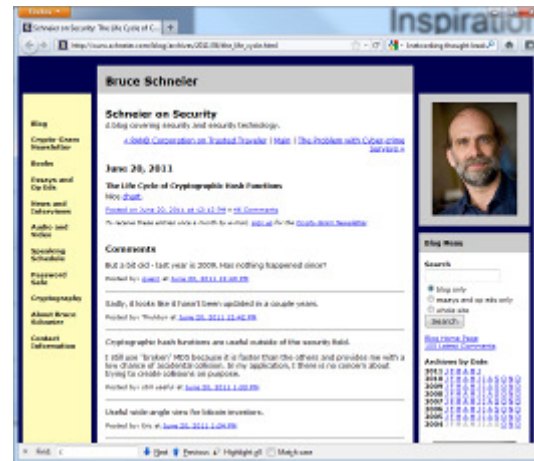
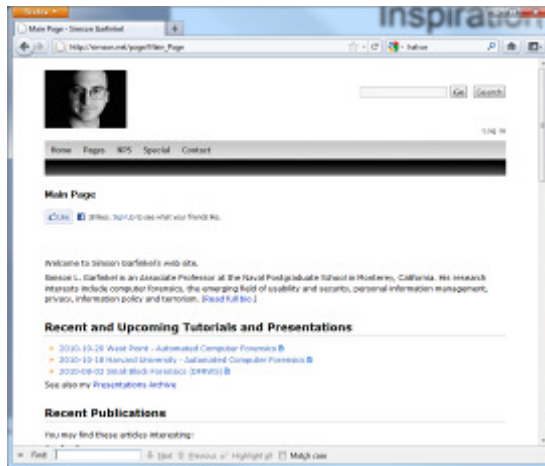
Fight Uninformed Law



“Honored visitor of phenoelit.de. Much to our regret, this site is no longer available in the form it has been since the late 1990s.”

“It became illegal.”

Find Inspiration in Others you Respect



Know what you don't know



Donald Rumsfeld

[T]here are known
knowns; there are things
we know we know.

We also know there are
known unknowns; that is
to say we know there
are some things we do
not know.

But there are also
unknown unknowns –
the ones we don't know
we don't know.

Don't Expect to Get Rich



* I saw the NOP Sled License plate at an ACM CCS conference parking garage in DC
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:White_Ferrari_Scuderia_Spider_16M_in_Lugano_-2.jpg

Build Momentum



The Journey Itself Has Many Dividends



INTRO/BACKGROUND MOTIVATION

Program

not addressing
dynamic analysis

GPL

VISUAL
MALWARE
ANALYSIS

- Fedora VM
- Knoppix/KaliX

VISUAL
STUDIO
C++

Knowledge Base (dynamic)
GUI diff
E-pool

RELATED WORK

OBJDUMP
SABRE BIN DIFF
IDA
OJI DBO-
HEXEDITORS
SYS INTERFACES
ACADEMIC RESEARCH
- FILEPRINTS
- STATIC/DYNAMIC
R.E.

NOVEL
File format fuzzing



00 0A 0D 11
11 12

- meta data
- ✓ HEX EDITOR
- ✓ ASCII TABLE
- ✓ STRINGS
- ✓ DECOMPILERS
- ✓ OBJDUMP
- ✓ BINDIFF

VISUAL STUDIO C++
TOP 100 PAGES

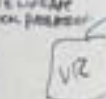
REQUIREMENTS/TASK

ANALYSIS
- PLUG-IN
- EXTENSIBLE
- FILE FORMAT
- EXTRACTOR
- SURVEY
- LIVE
- 100

SOLUTION

DESIGN

Implementation



HEX

FILE

STRINGS

FILE END

MD5

IMG

EVALUATION

CASE STUDIES

QUALITY

QUANTITY

FILE

FILE

FILE

FILE

FILE

FILE

FILE

FILE

FILE

Questions?