

Blocking YouTube videos using SSL Proxy

What is SSL?

SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) is a protocol that secures communication over the internet. It encrypts data exchanged between a client (like a browser) and a server, ensuring that sensitive information cannot be intercepted by unauthorized parties. SSL also authenticates the server's identity using digital certificates and ensures data integrity, meaning the data cannot be altered in transit without detection.

What is an SSL Proxy?

An SSL proxy intercepts and decrypts SSL-encrypted traffic between a client and a server. This allows the proxy to inspect the content for filtering or security purposes. Once the content is analyzed, the proxy re-encrypts the traffic and forwards it to its destination. SSL proxies are commonly used in corporate networks to enforce security policies or content filtering.

How to block a YouTube video using SSL Proxy?

When a user makes an HTTPS request to YouTube, mitmproxy intercepts the traffic, decrypts it, and checks if the request matches a specific video ID. If the request targets the blocked video, the proxy responds with a '403 Forbidden' status, effectively preventing the video from loading. Otherwise, the request is allowed to pass through, and the video loads as usual.

Please refer to the readme file for further set up and usage instructions.

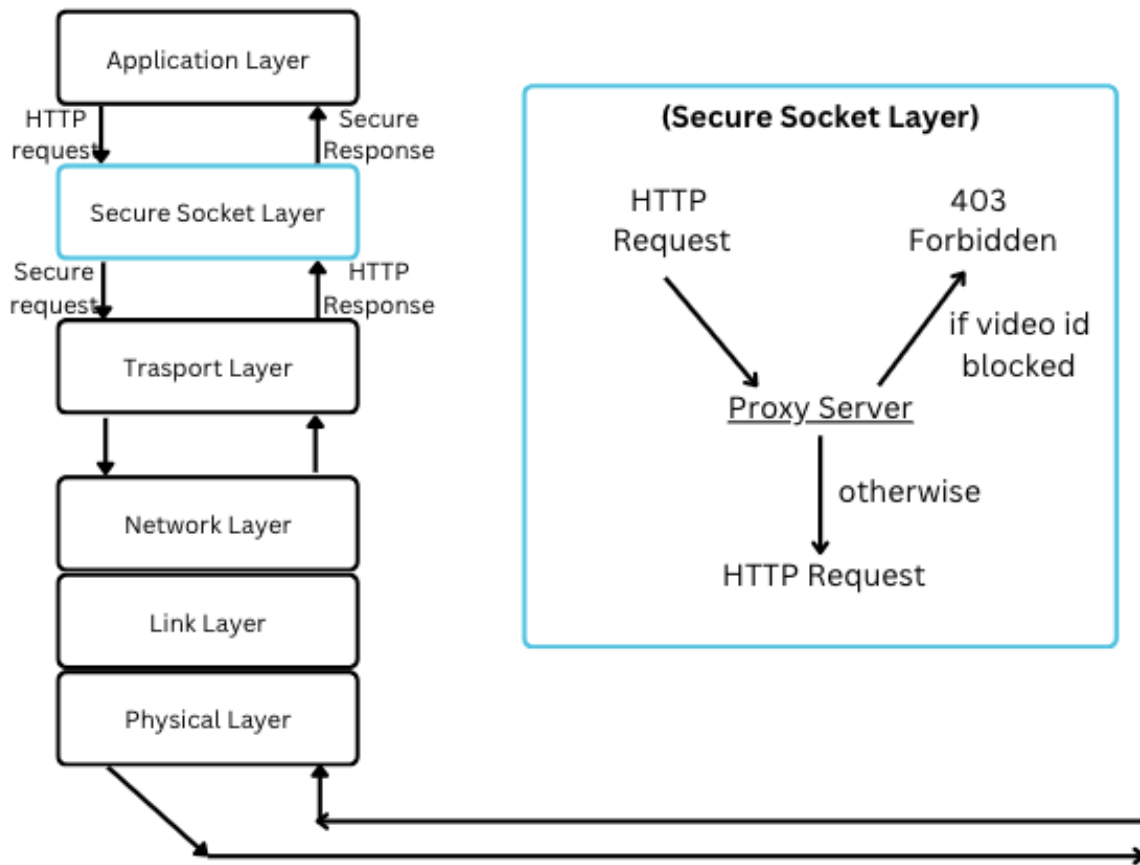
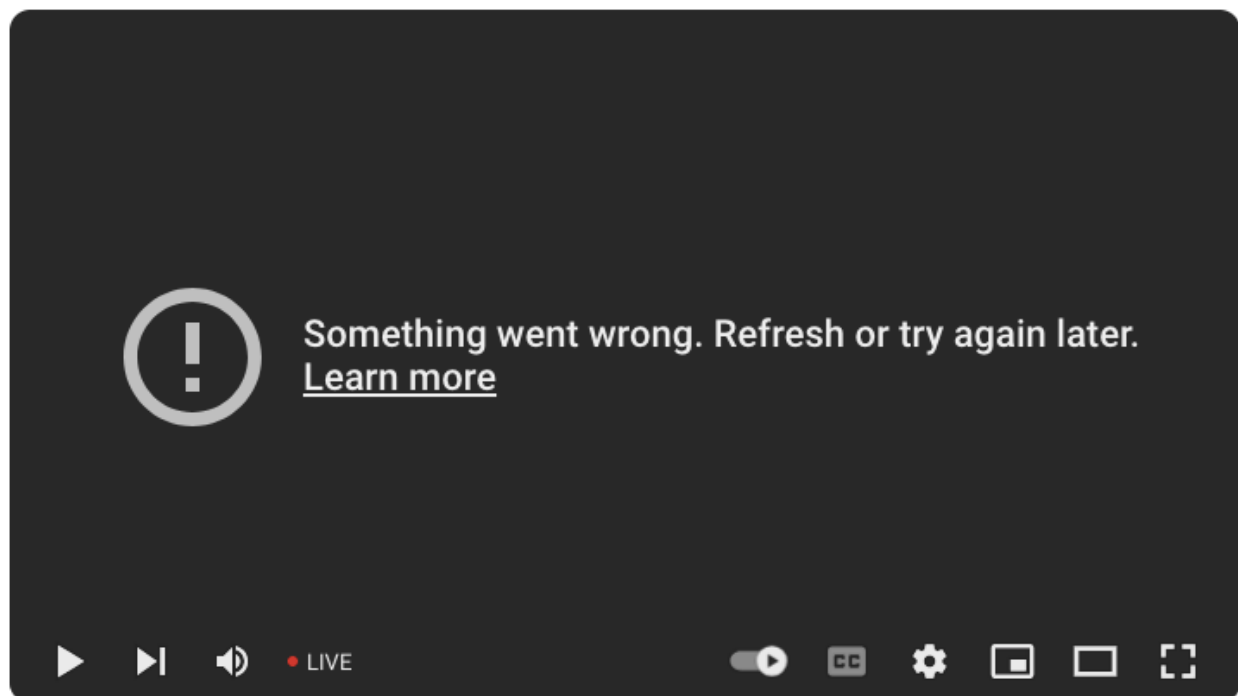


Fig 1. Request Flow



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Fig 2. Blocked Video