

GSCI1801A

Information Science

Lecture 7: Information Security, Ethics, and Emerging Topics

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Note

- This presentation was prepared in 16:9 widescreen format.

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Agenda

- Information Security
 - Principles of Information Security
 - Cryptography and Related Technologies
- Ethics
 - Computer Crimes
 - Privacy
- Selected Discussions on Emerging Topics:
 - How is your data being used?
 - Cryptocurrency: Future Digital Goldmine, or what?
 - The Meta Concern about Metaverse and Meta: Is it all an illusion?

Fields in information security



Application: Web, Database, specific CMS (WordPress, Joomla, etc.), mobile apps, etc.



Infrastructure: Network, Cloud, OS, etc.



Theory: Cryptography, etc.



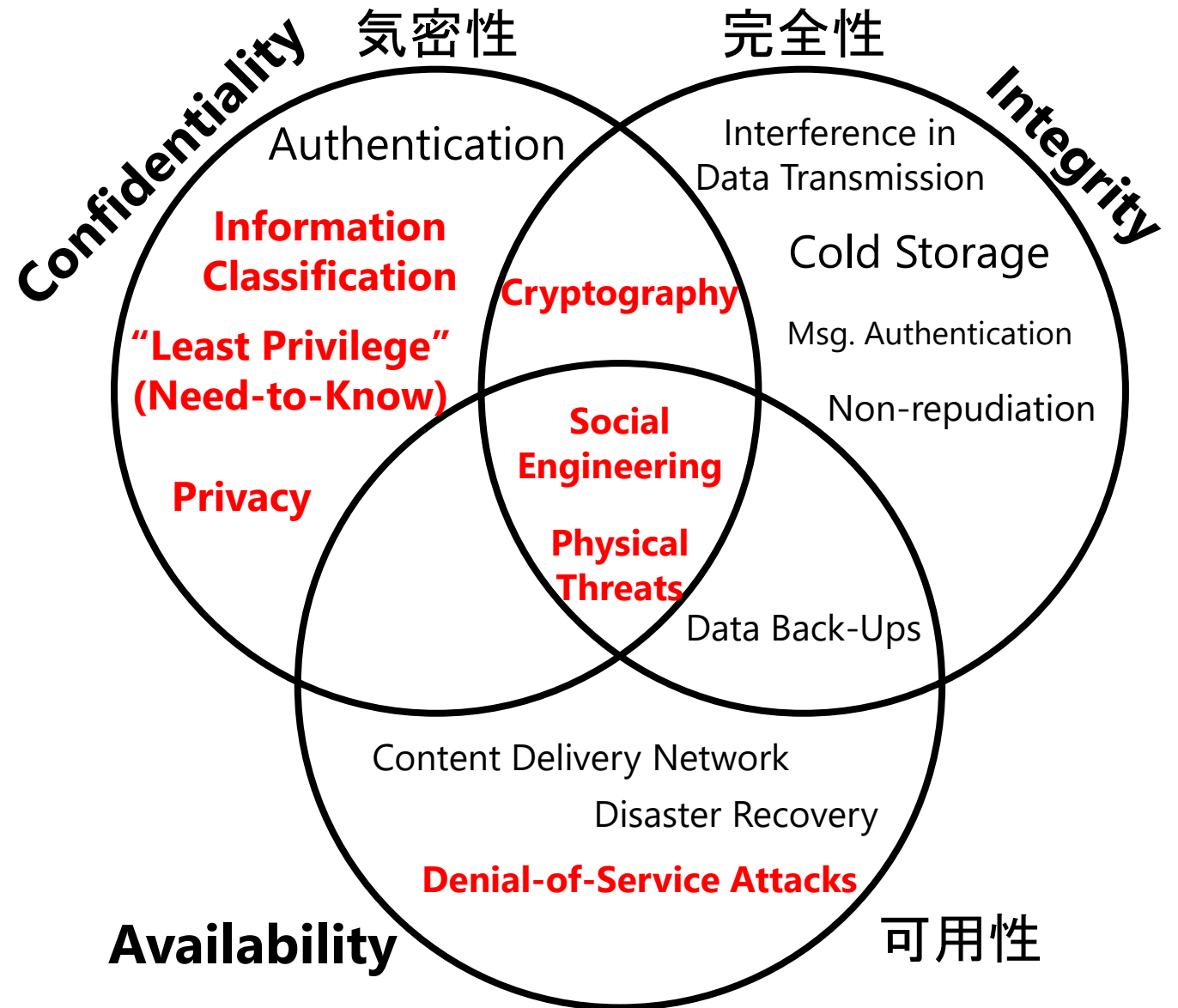
Policy and corporate implementation (CISSP, ISO 27001, etc.)

The CIA Triad

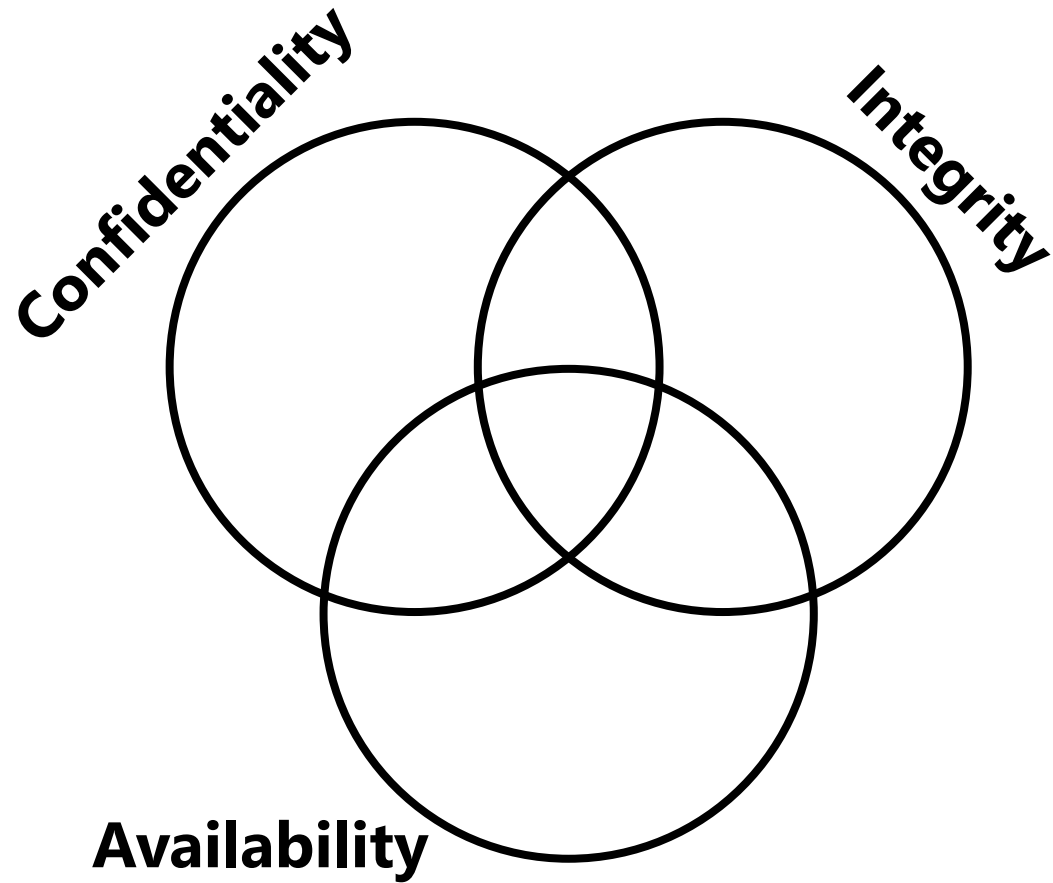
They are the three key components of information security. Notice that some elements may be related to multiple components.

Today I'll discuss the highlighted topics.

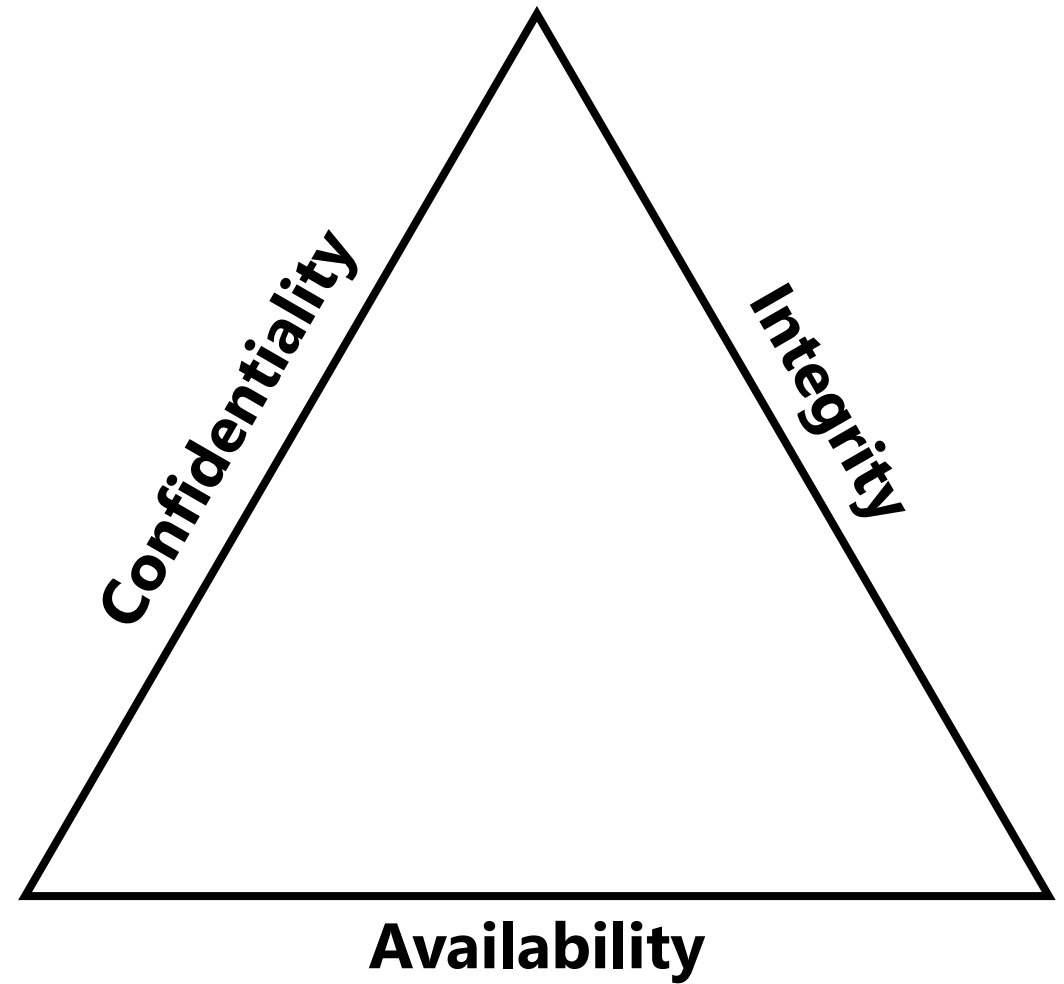
* The topics here are shown as examples only. This is not an exhaustive list.



Wait, which CIA Triad?



"Venn Diagram" design:
topics overlapping multiple domains



"Triangle of Fire" design:
all three elements are necessary for a secure system

Information Classification

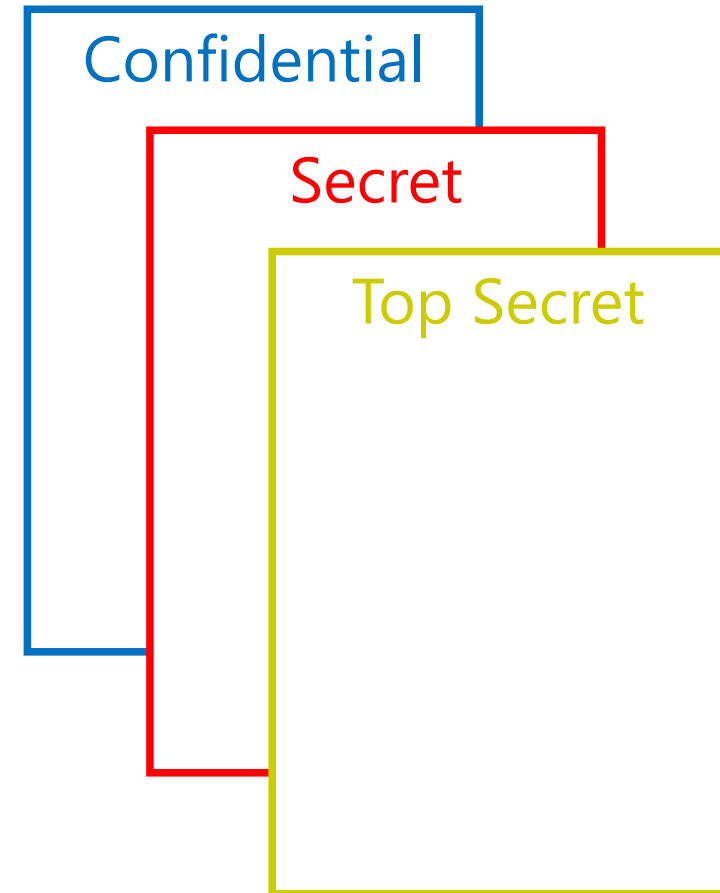


These two people work at two different levels of a company.
One is likely an engineer. Another looks like a CEO or maybe a president of a company.

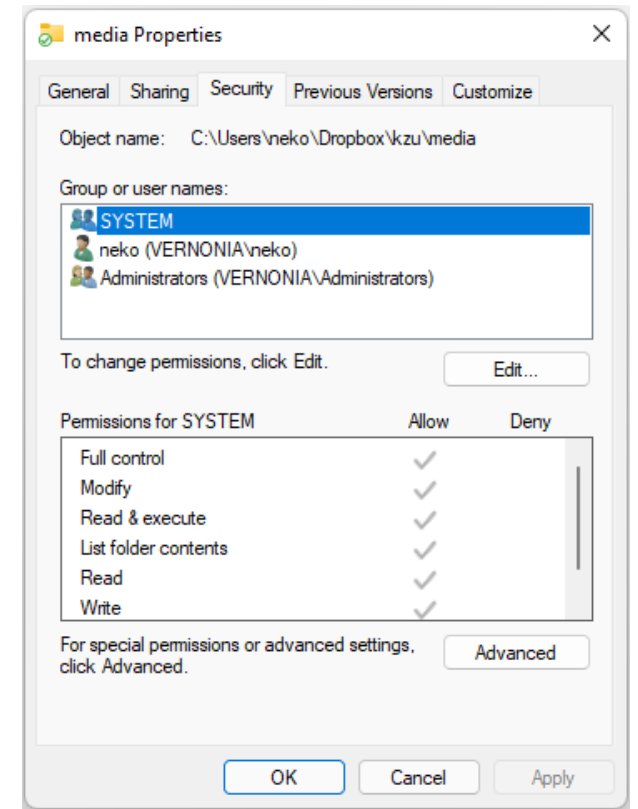
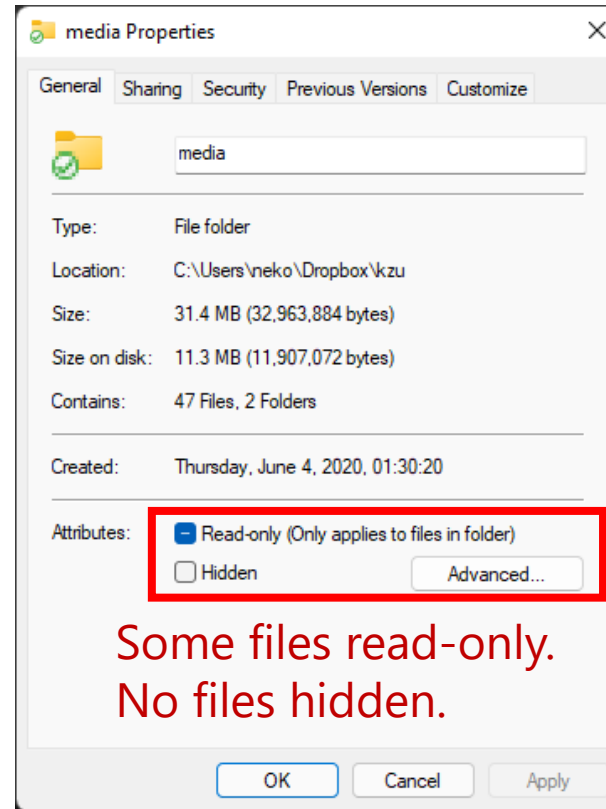
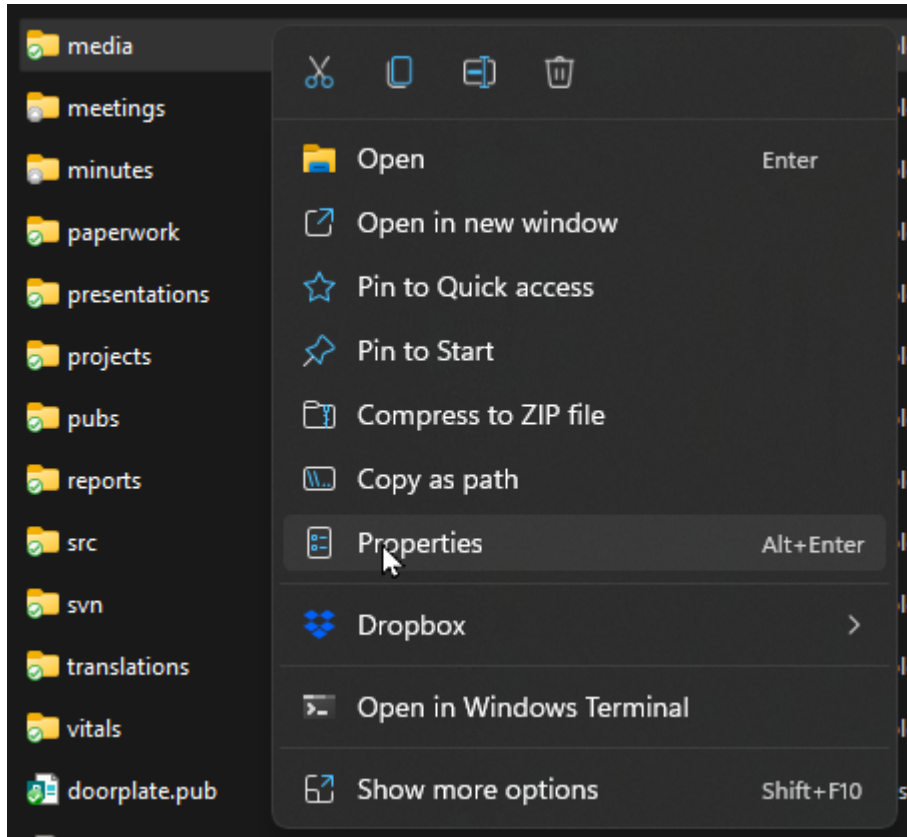
Who should have better access to more sensitive data?

Information Classification

- Define how your document is to be handled by your organization.
- Most government organizations and large companies already have classification.
- How do you implement and integrate classification with IT?



File Permissions (Windows)



If there are many users on a single computer, or you are using a server, this will be more complicated.

File Permissions (linux)

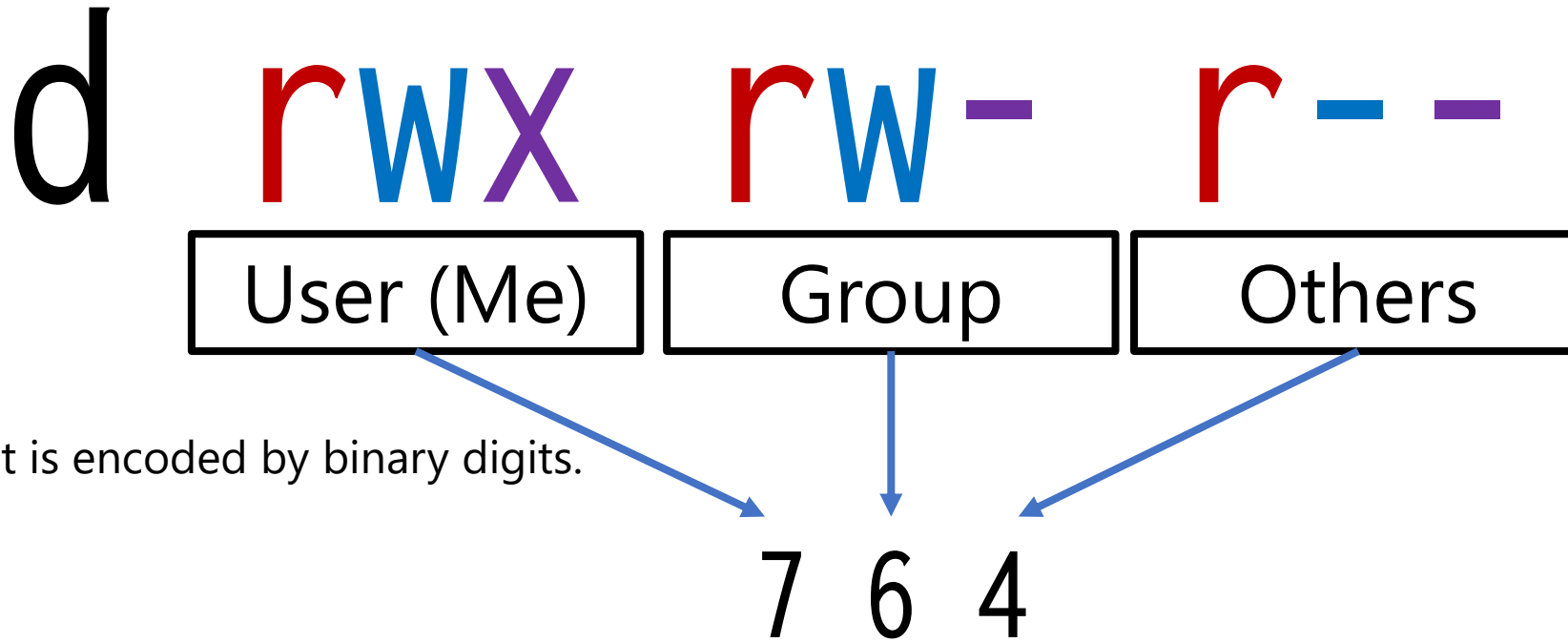
r = read

w = write

x = execute (run the file)

Letter means permission
Dash means no permission

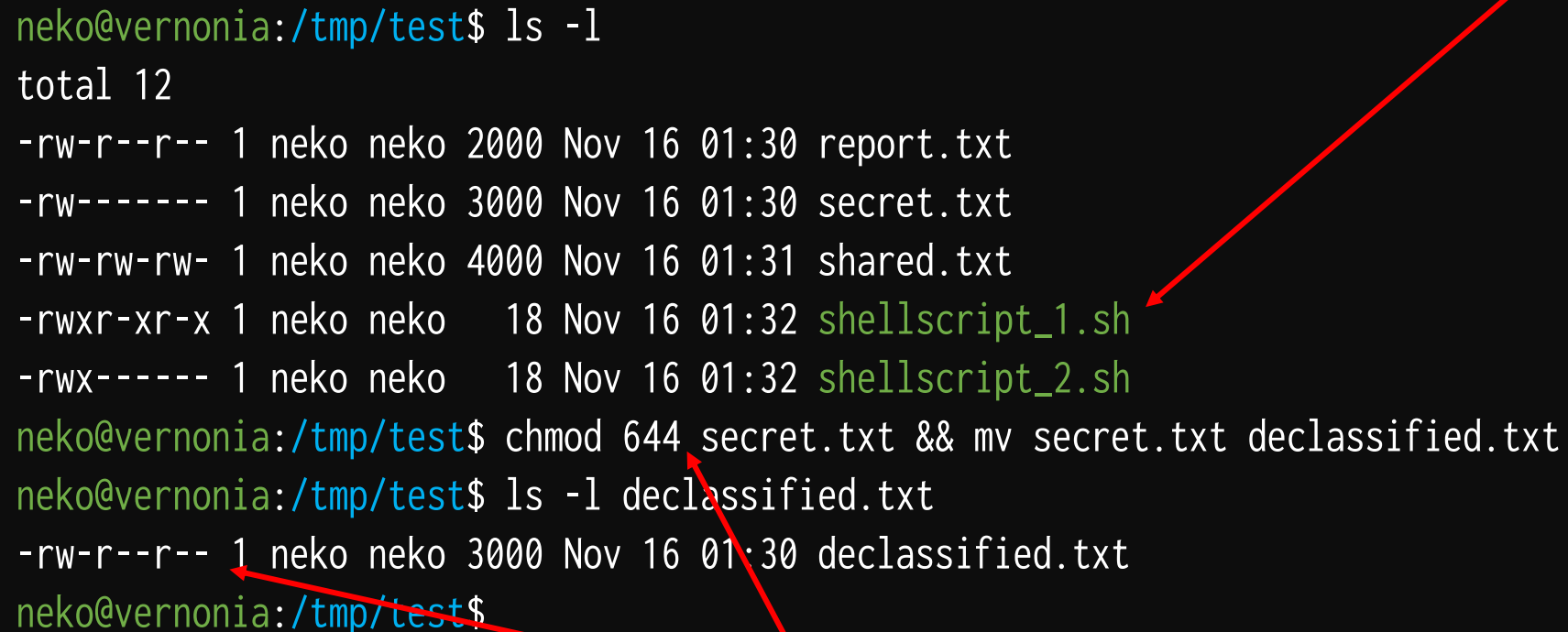
d = it is a directory (folder)



File Permissions (linux)

Files in green can be executed.

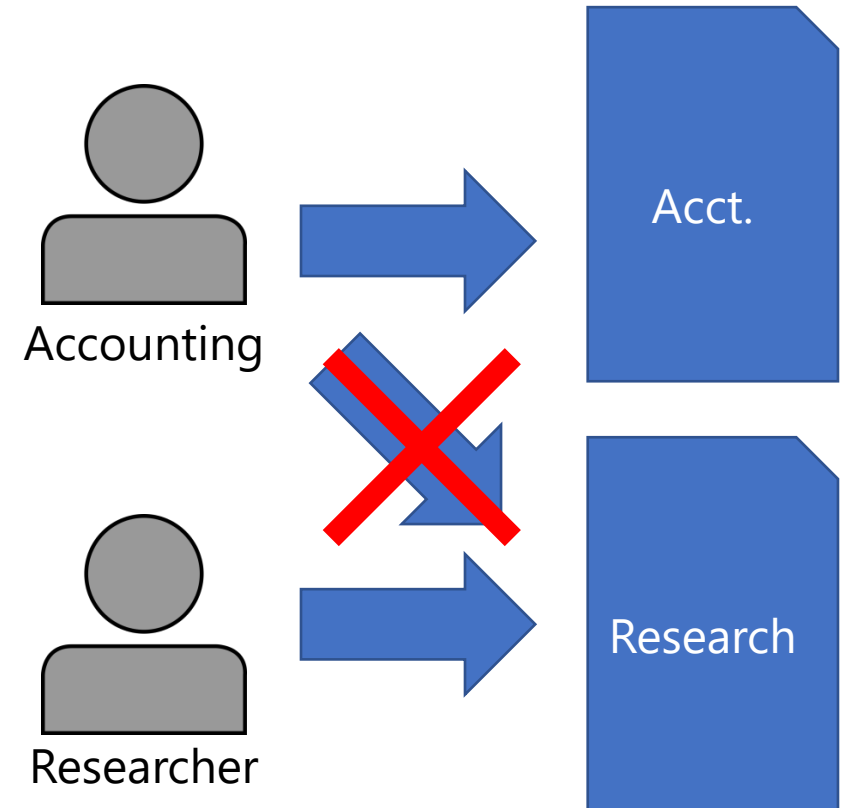
```
neko@vernonia:/tmp/test$ ls -l
total 12
-rw-r--r-- 1 neko neko 2000 Nov 16 01:30 report.txt
-rw----- 1 neko neko 3000 Nov 16 01:30 secret.txt
-rw-rw-rw- 1 neko neko 4000 Nov 16 01:31 shared.txt
-rwxr-xr-x 1 neko neko  18 Nov 16 01:32 shellscript_1.sh
-rwx----- 1 neko neko  18 Nov 16 01:32 shellscript_2.sh
neko@vernonia:/tmp/test$ chmod 644 secret.txt && mv secret.txt declassified.txt
neko@vernonia:/tmp/test$ ls -l declassified.txt
-rw-r--r-- 1 neko neko 3000 Nov 16 01:30 declassified.txt
neko@vernonia:/tmp/test$
```



Change file permissions to 644 or "rw-r--r--"
(Owner can read/write, group can read, others can read)

2. Least Privilege

- In addition to classification, organizations also require that you have a “need to know” to access specific information.
- For example, even if you have clearance, you cannot access information irrelevant to your work.

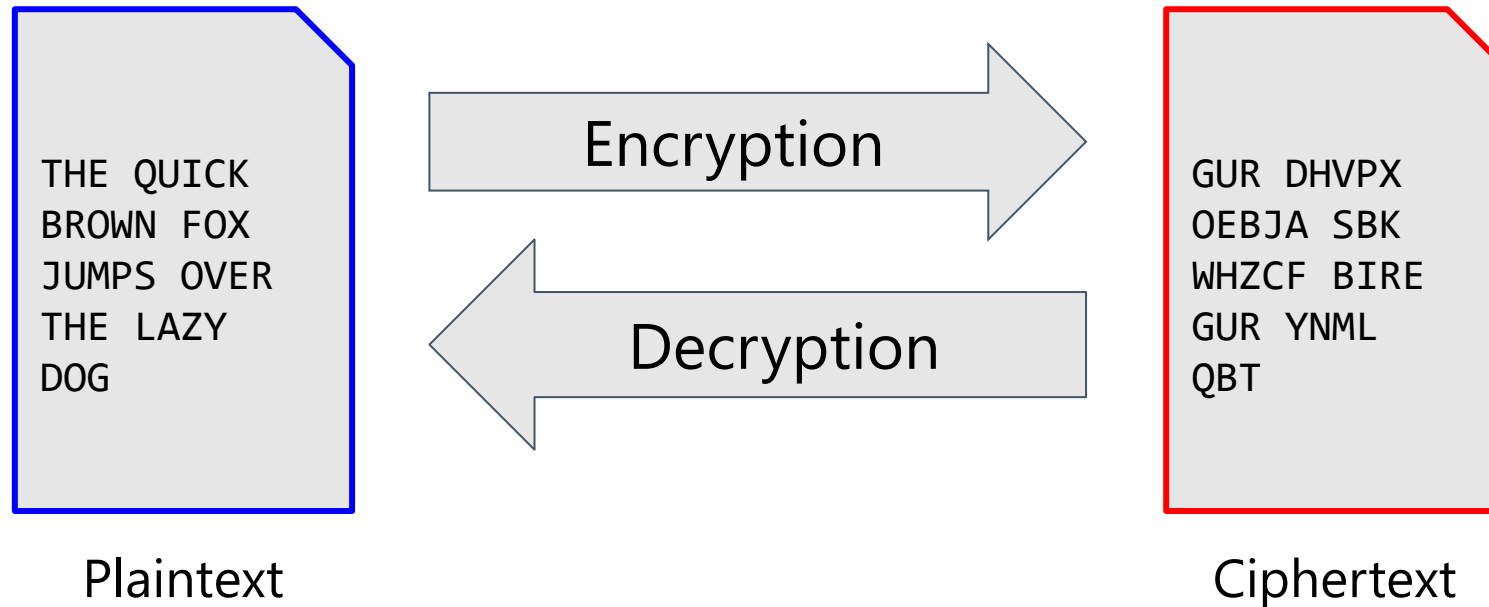


3. Cryptography

3.1. What is cryptography?

Cryptography is a mathematical method to transform your data so that it cannot be read or modified for unauthorized people.

This is usually done using mathematical methods.



3.2. Where can we see cryptography?



https:// ...

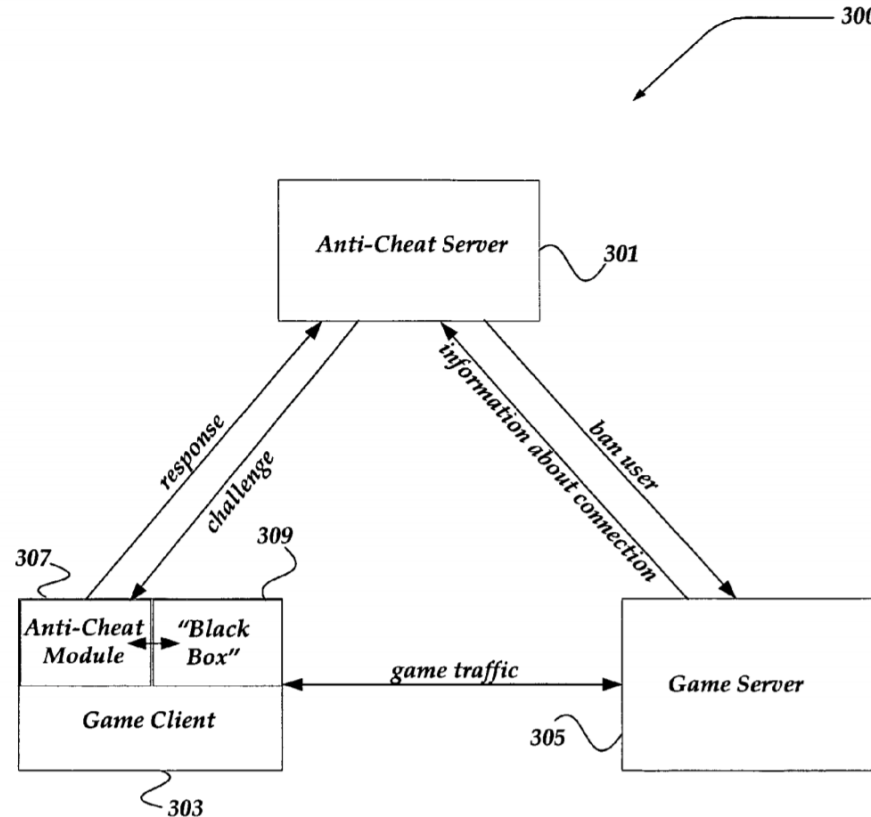
Secure Network Protocols

(there's more: TLS, IPSEC, etc.)



File & Disk Encryption Tools

(in order: Microsoft BitLocker, TrueCrypt, VeraCrypt)



Video Game Anti-cheat Facility

Bamberger et al. (2006), [US Patent 2006/0247038 A1](#)
(assigned to Valve Corporation)

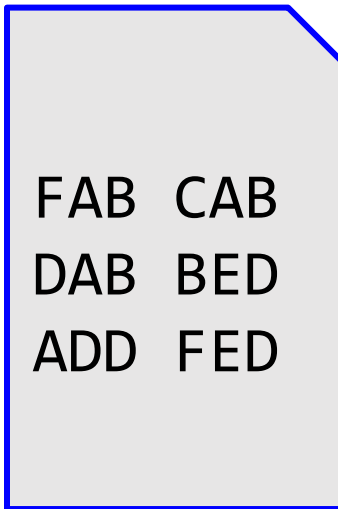


Military Communications

That's the [Enigma Machine](#), so it's a little old, but the concept still stands.

3.3. Basic Substitution

A simple encryption method is to replace one character by another character based on a preset **substitution table**.



FAB CAB
DAB BED
ADD FED

Plaintext

Substitution Table

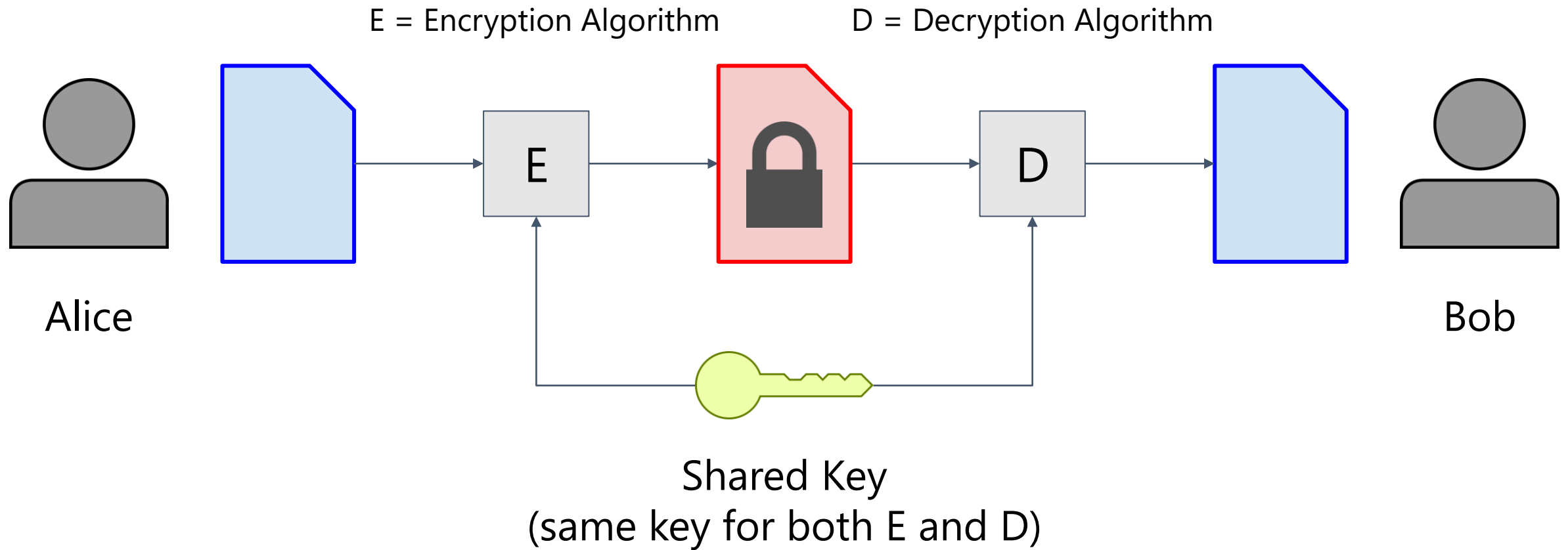
plaintext		ciphertext
A	↔	Z
B	↔	H
C	↔	N
D	↔	L
E	↔	P
F	↔	K
...		



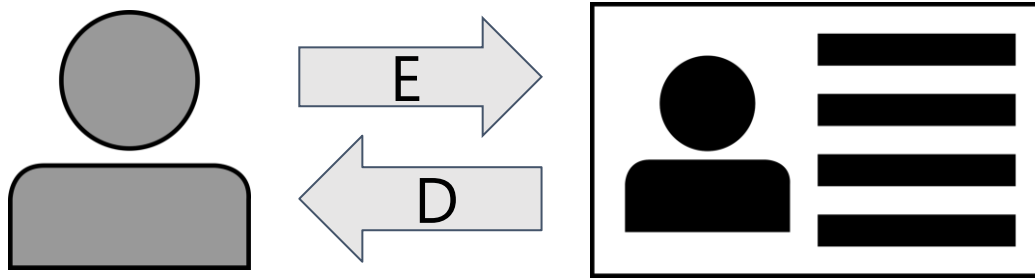
KZH NZH
LZH HPL
ZLL KPL

Ciphertext

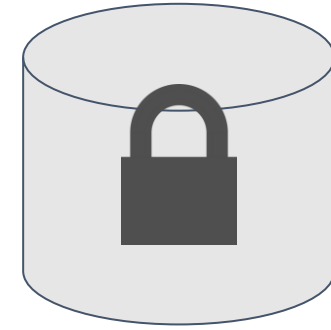
3.4. Symmetric Key Cryptography



3.4. Symmetric Key Cryptography: Applications

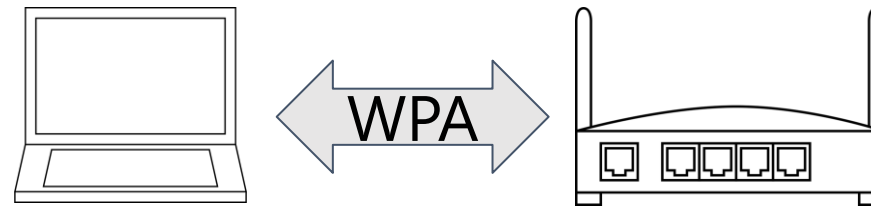


Managing own user
account



File storage

(Disk Encryption we mentioned earlier, etc.)



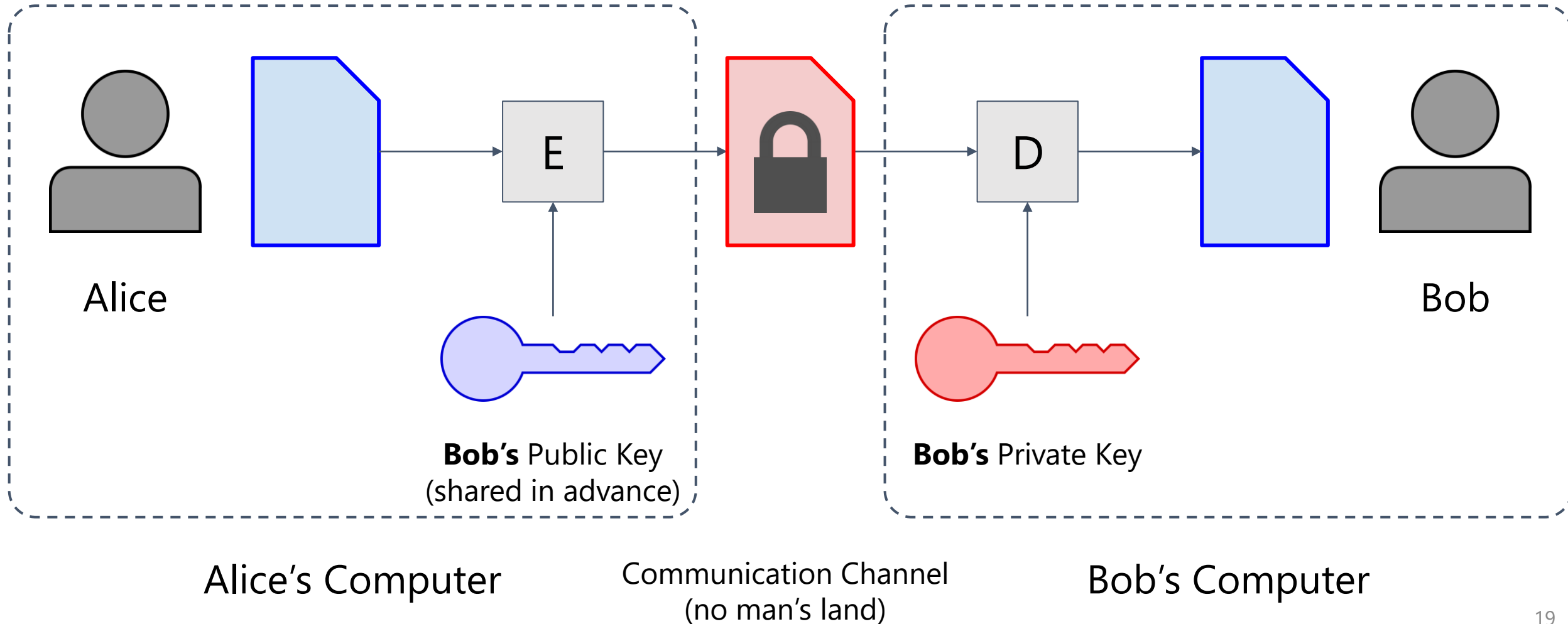
Secure Network Protocols

(WPA = Wifi Protected Access)

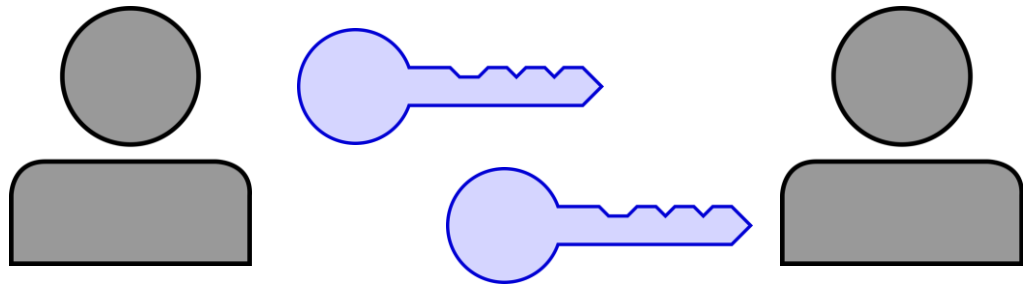
You can also read [RFC4764](#) for more details about encryption.

P.S. That router *isn't* a LinkSys :P

3.5. Asymmetric Key Cryptography



3.5. Applications of Asymmetric Key Cryptography

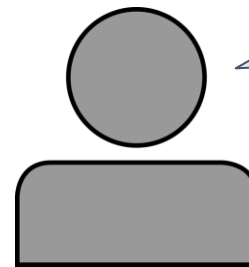


Secure Key Exchange and Authentication
(to set up for future communication using
symmetric key encryption)

CATS!

LOLOLOLOL

Secure Messaging and Emails



Well I really did say it.

Digital Signatures

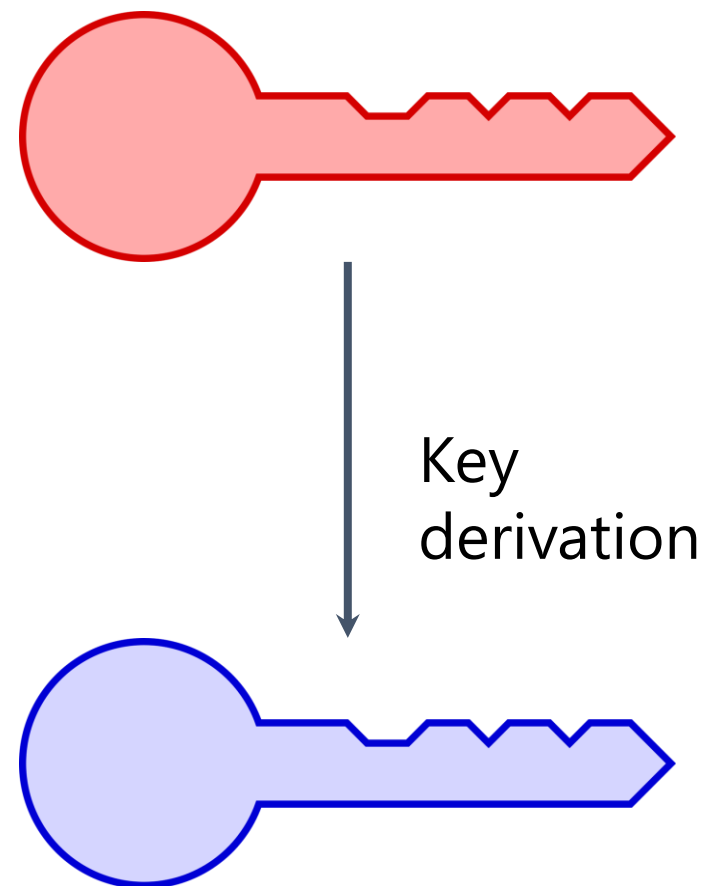
3.6. Asymmetric Key Cryptography: Public and Private Keys

There ... are two keys per person?

Thus begins our discussion on asymmetric key cryptography.

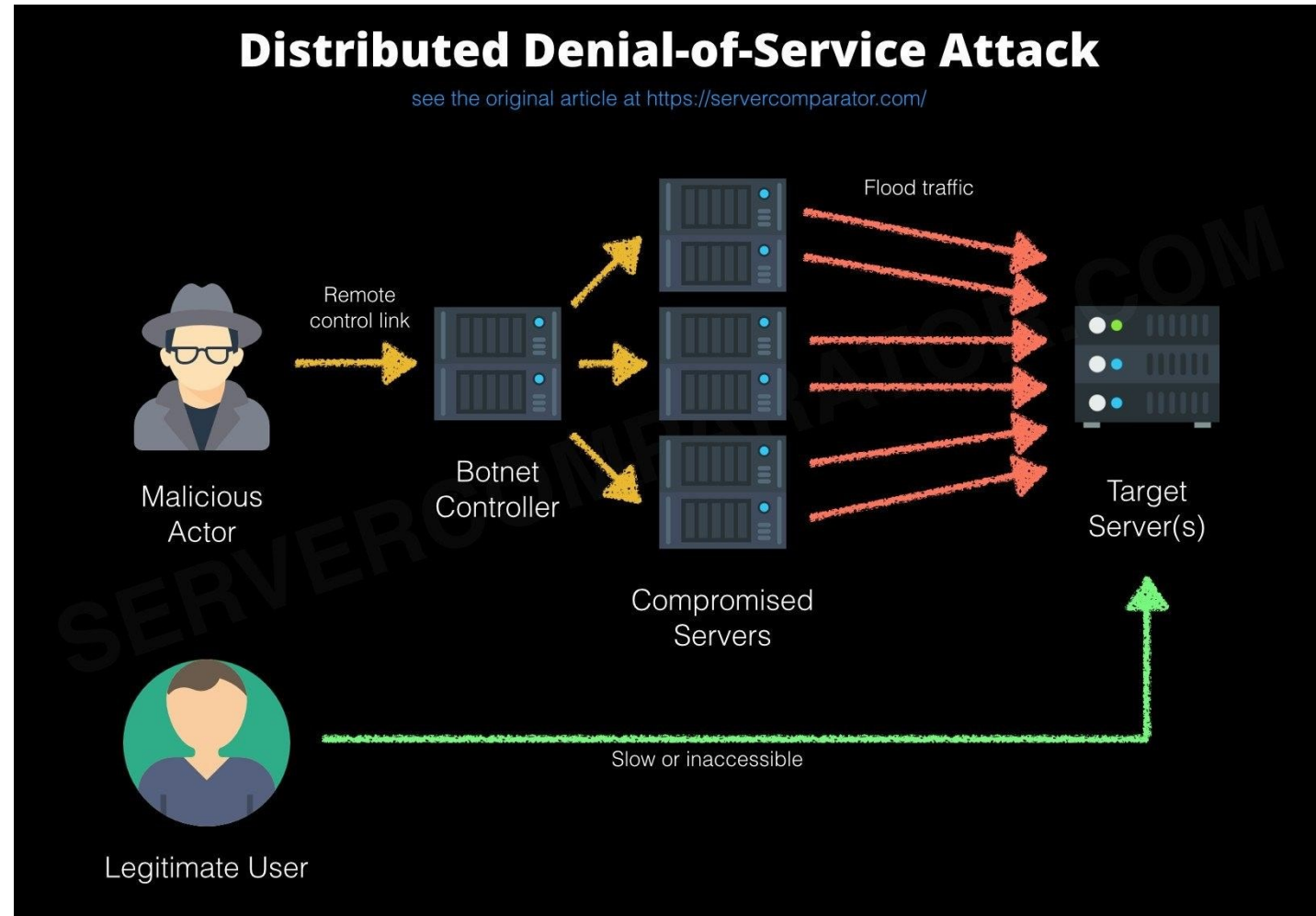
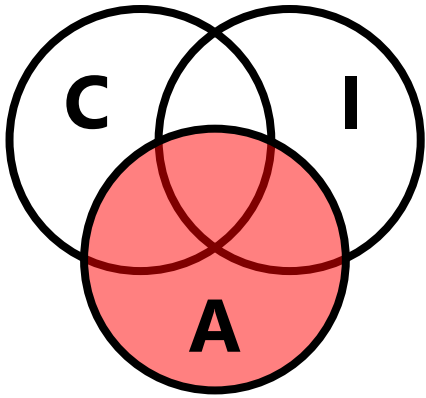
Rule #1*: The public and private keys are mathematically related pairs, but it must be “impossible” to find the private key based on the public key!

(*Not literally, but it’s still pretty important.)



4. Threats

4.1. Denial-of-Service (DoS) Attacks



Source: MSDN, <https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/sql-server/understanding-server-traffic-logs-and-detecting-denial-of/ba-p/385529>

4.1. Importance of DoS attacks

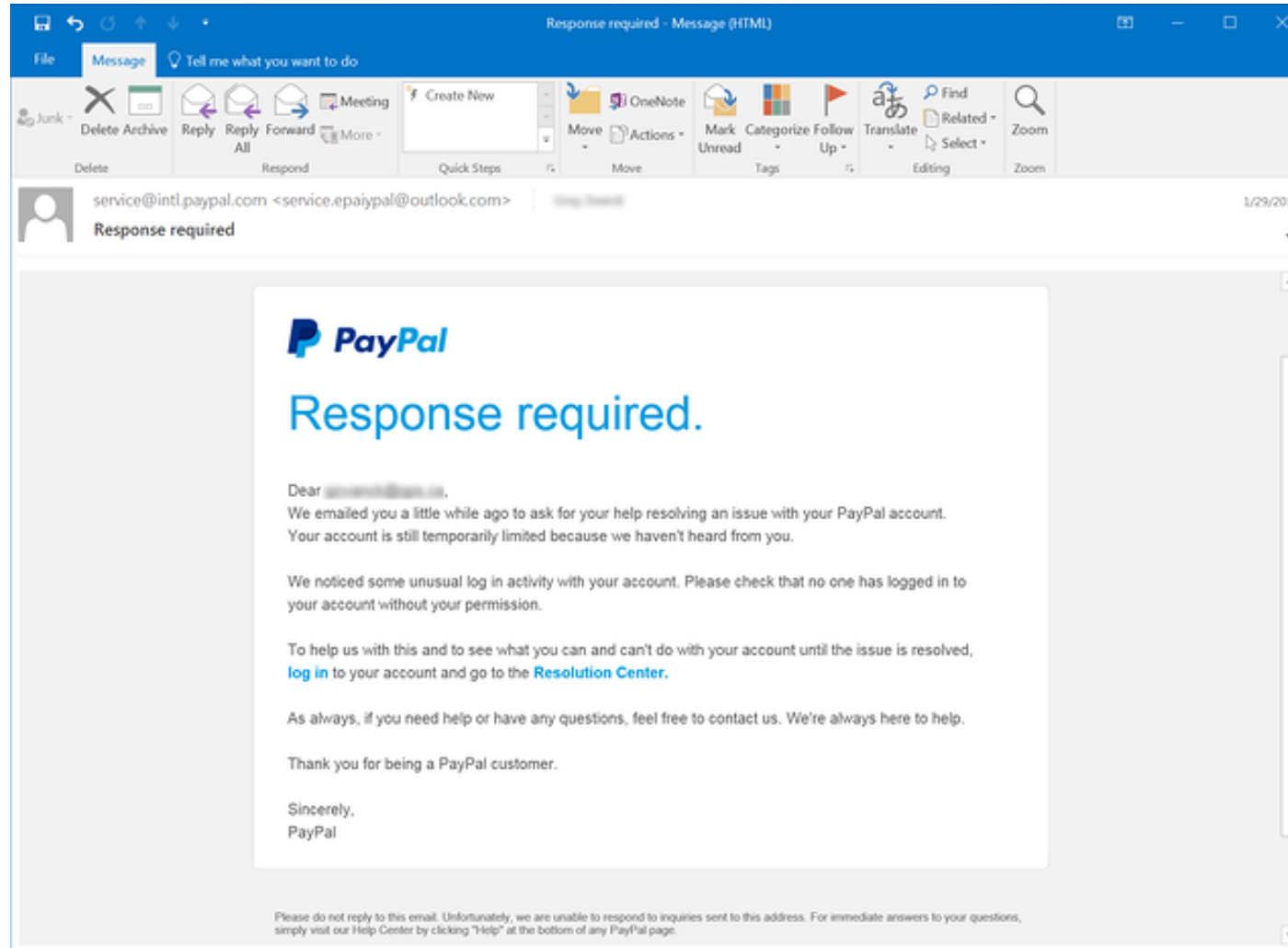
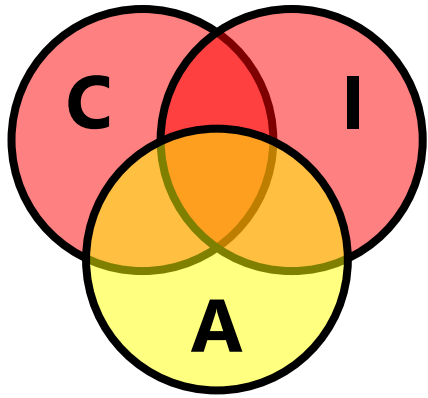
- Cheap yet effective against government & large companies.
- They are seen in conjunction with zombie and mob attacks.
- Easily confused with legitimate traffic.
- Cat-and-mouse situation between ISPs and shady people.

Confusing Situation: Is it DoS or just happy hour?



The Government did something wrong!
People are very angry!

4.2. Phishing (Social Engineering)



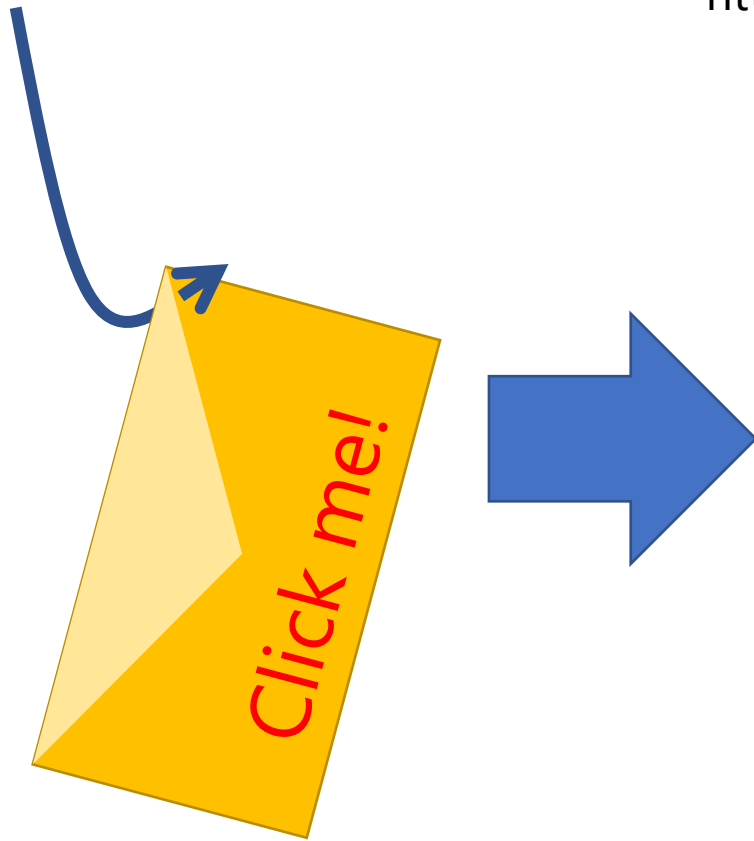
Source: <https://www.phishing.org/phishing-examples>

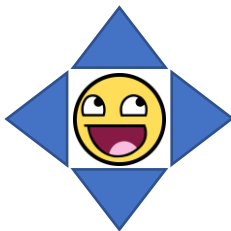
4.2. Impacts of Phishing

- Leak of sensitive information (corporate secrets, customer data, etc.)
- Perpetrators gain access to our systems and may take control of them (leading to further attacks)
- Impacts against trust in our company

What phishing can lead to?

<http://kanazawa-u.ac.jp.adasdsas.com/login.php>

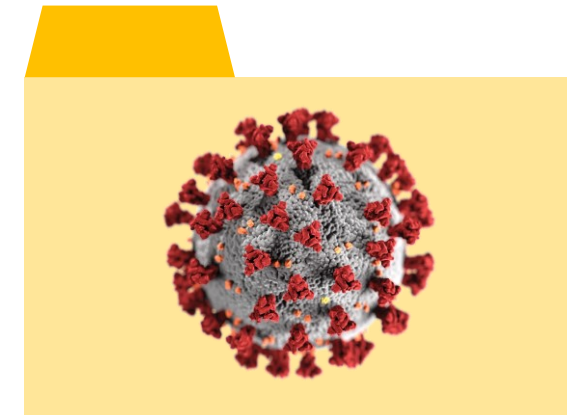


 Acanthos
Portal
Kanazawa University

USER

PASS

Password theft
websites



Virus or malware
attachments!

(Fake website for illustration only.)

Graphics: [APSF](#)

Okay, how fake can a website get? What to look for?



Red or broken lock.

If it was usually green or gray but today it's red, assume that it is unsafe.

<http://kanazawa-u.ac.jp.adasdsasd.com/login.php>

This is the **main part of the URL**.
This is NOT Kanazawa University website.

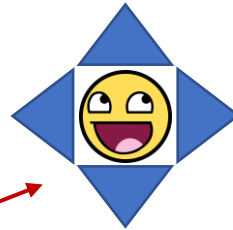
Incorrect service name.

Look for small differences.
Note that correct name alone does not mean the website is safe.

Wrong technical information.

1. The official network for Kanazawa University is KAINS-WIFI, not KUWIN (it is operated by another university).
2. You connect to KAINS-WIFI directly using the Wi-Fi menu on your computer or phone, not by web.

Incorrect, outdated, or poorly detailed **logo**. Note that correct logo alone does not mean the website is safe.



Acanthos
Portal

Kanazawa University

USER

me@kanazawa-u.ac.jp

PASS

Connect to
KUWIN

Poor or incorrect **website design**.
Acanthus Portal login page is blue.

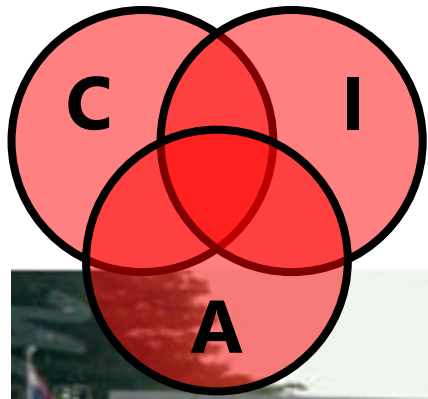
Note that real phishing attempts are much more professional than this!

Example of a legitimate website (from textbook)



Figure 9-10: A website using HTTPS

4.3. Physical Threats



Never underestimate physical security!

Attacks on government centers and public corporations seriously disrupt important services. Physical assaults can occur together with attacks on information security.



Protests blocking CAT Telecom in Thailand

Photo: <https://www.sanook.com/news/1334551/>



US Capitol Assault

Laptops of US federal employees were also reported stolen.

<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/capitol-attack-conjures-american-legacy-racial-violence/story?id=75331177>

Ethics

Definition of Ethics

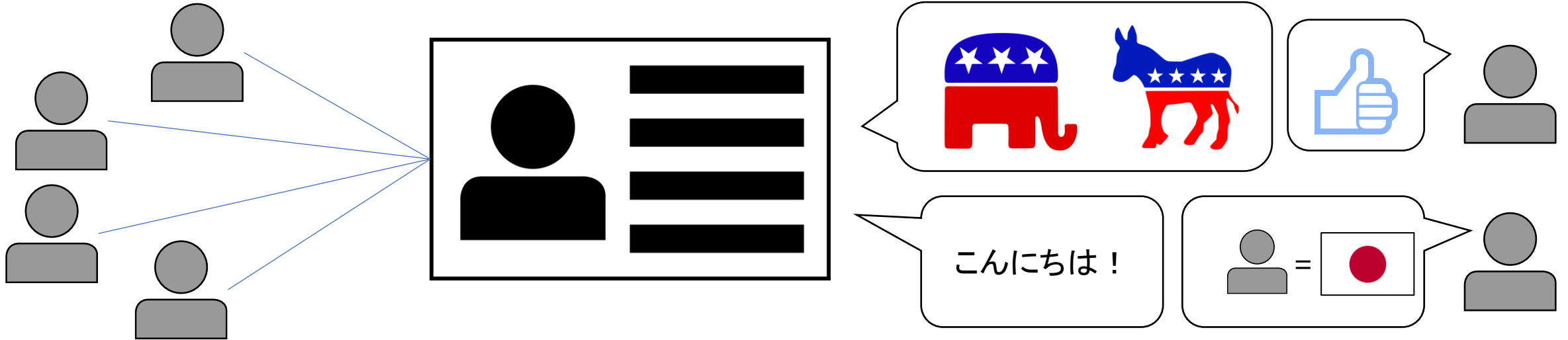
- Principles, or rules of what's good or bad.
- BBC: "a system of moral principles".
- Ethics come in many forms:
 - Law
 - Code of Ethics
 - Unwritten Rules
 - Gentlemen's Agreements

Computer Crimes

- Modern laws in many countries have specific articles outlining computer crimes. Examples include:
- Unauthorized access (不正アクセス)
- Service disruption
- Data modification
- Data theft (leakage)
- Piracy

Privacy:

How much information do you give out online?



Your Contacts

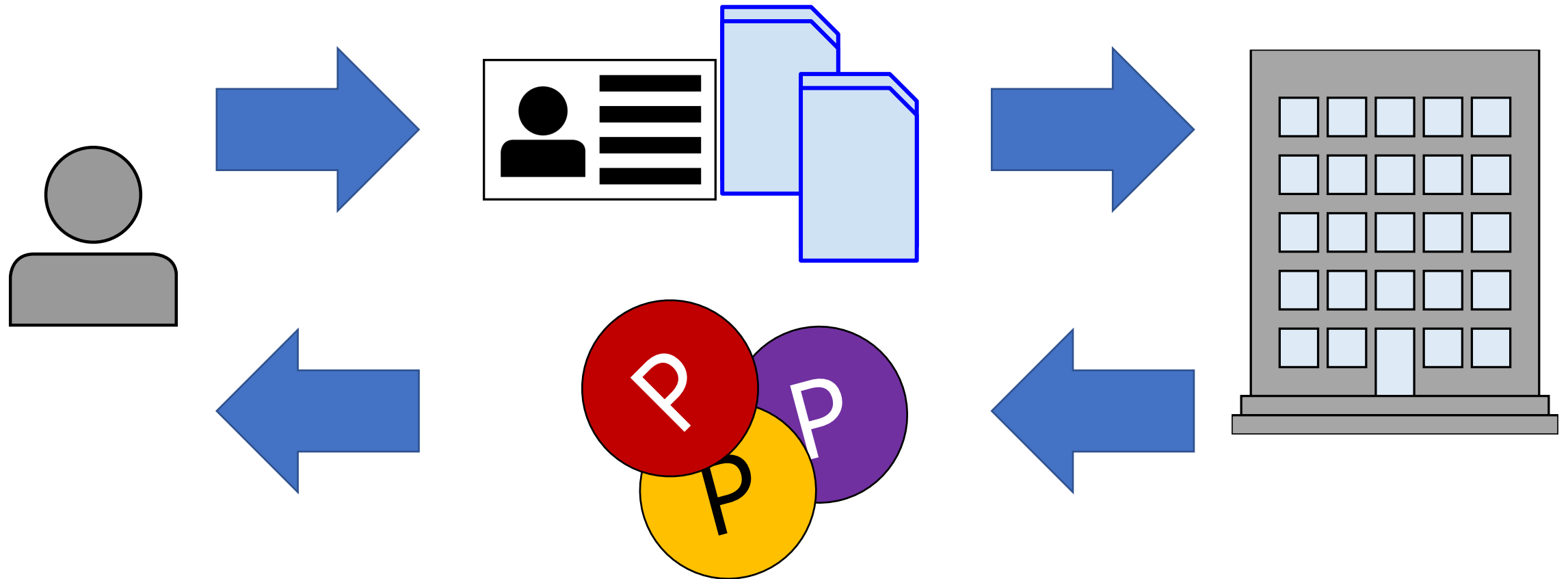
Your Identity

- Real name
- Email address
- Telephone number
- Address
- Credit cards and payment methods

Your Activities Reveal about You

- Discussions about politics and religions
- Your language may reveal your nationality or local accent.
- Complaining about your job may get you fired.

Are those “app points” worth enough for you to give your information?





“The question is what else is being done with that data? And who supervises it? Who regulates it?”

– Yuval Noah Harari (Author of *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*)

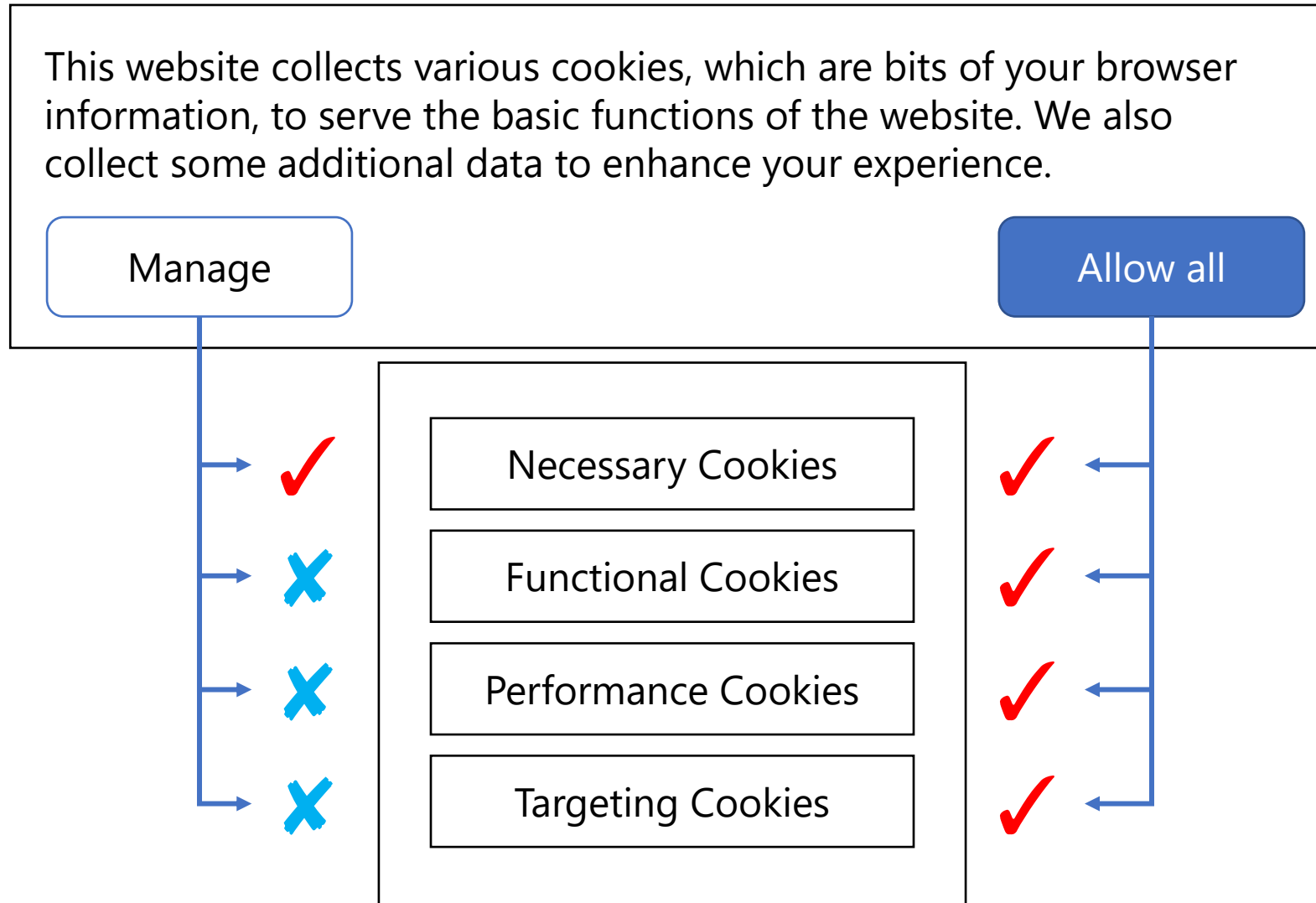
Selected Discussion on Emerging Topics

Opening a can of worms.

Here be dragons: Content following this slide will not be graded in exam. (May still be on exam for evaluation purposes but won't affect your grade.)

1. How is your data being used?

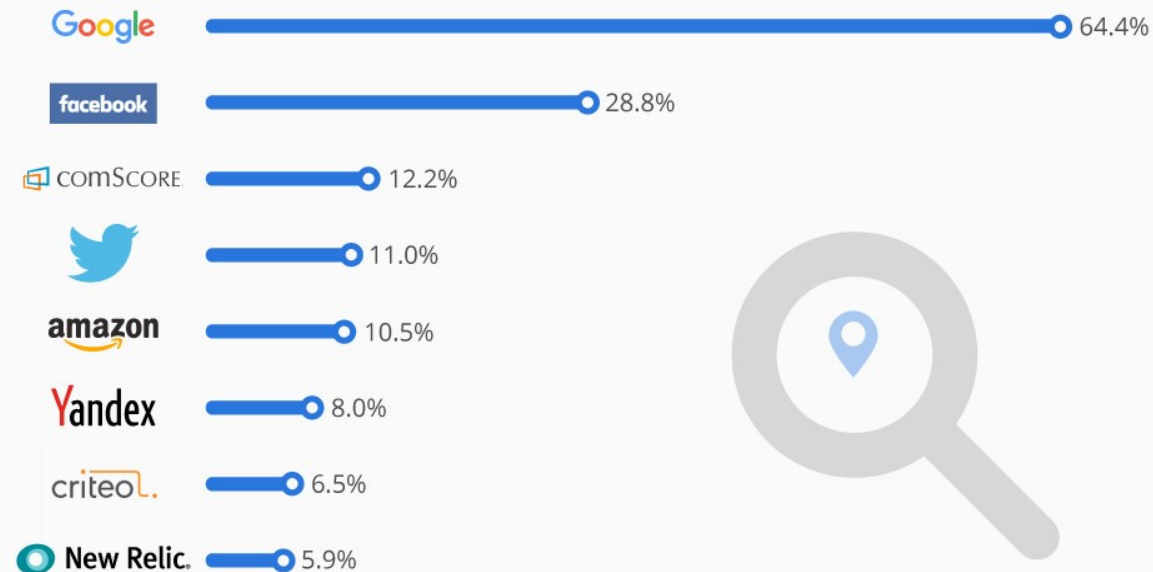
Web tracking



Who keeps your data?

They Know What You Clicked Last Summer

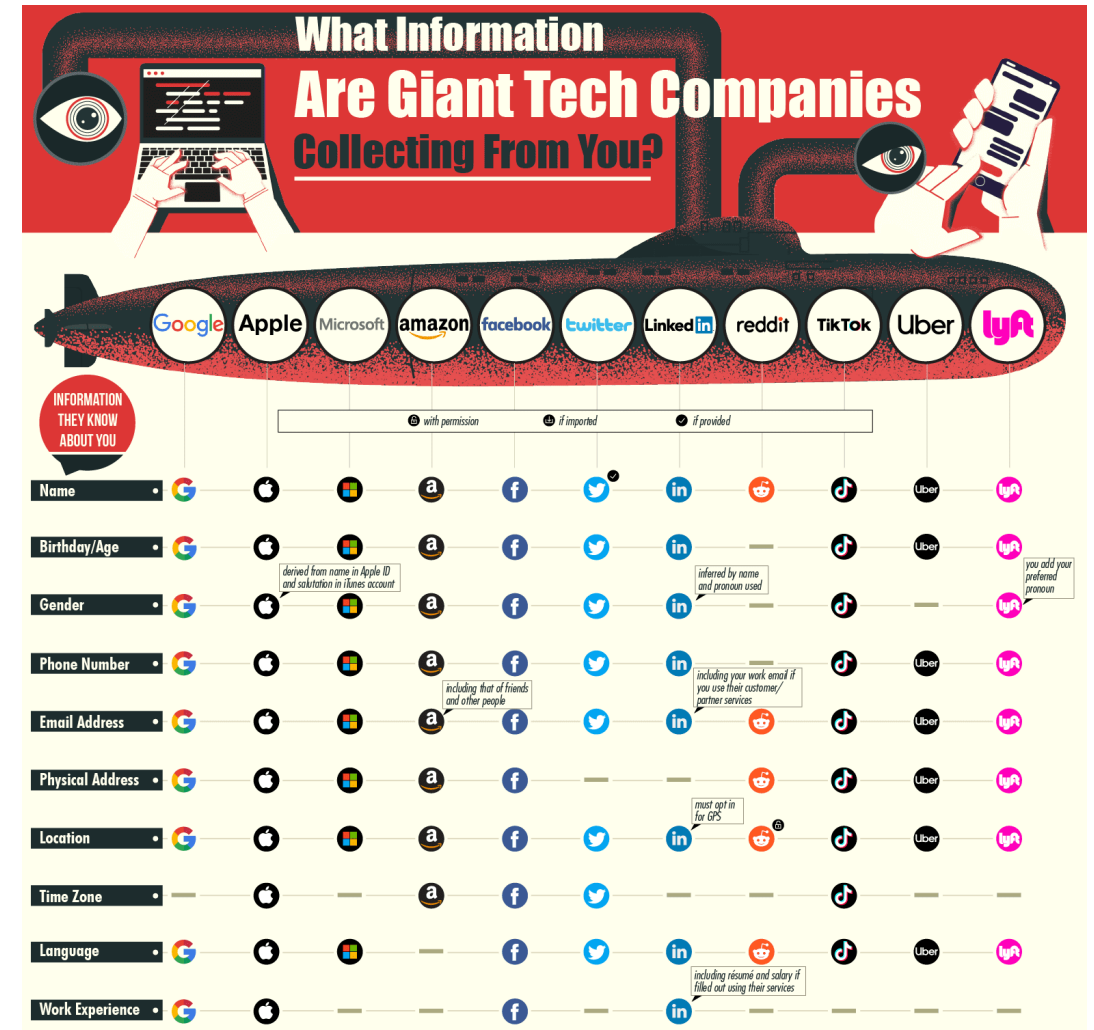
Percentage of global page loads tracked by the following companies



Based on the analysis of more than 144 million page loads by 850,000 users in more than 20 countries
Sources: Ghostery, Cliqz

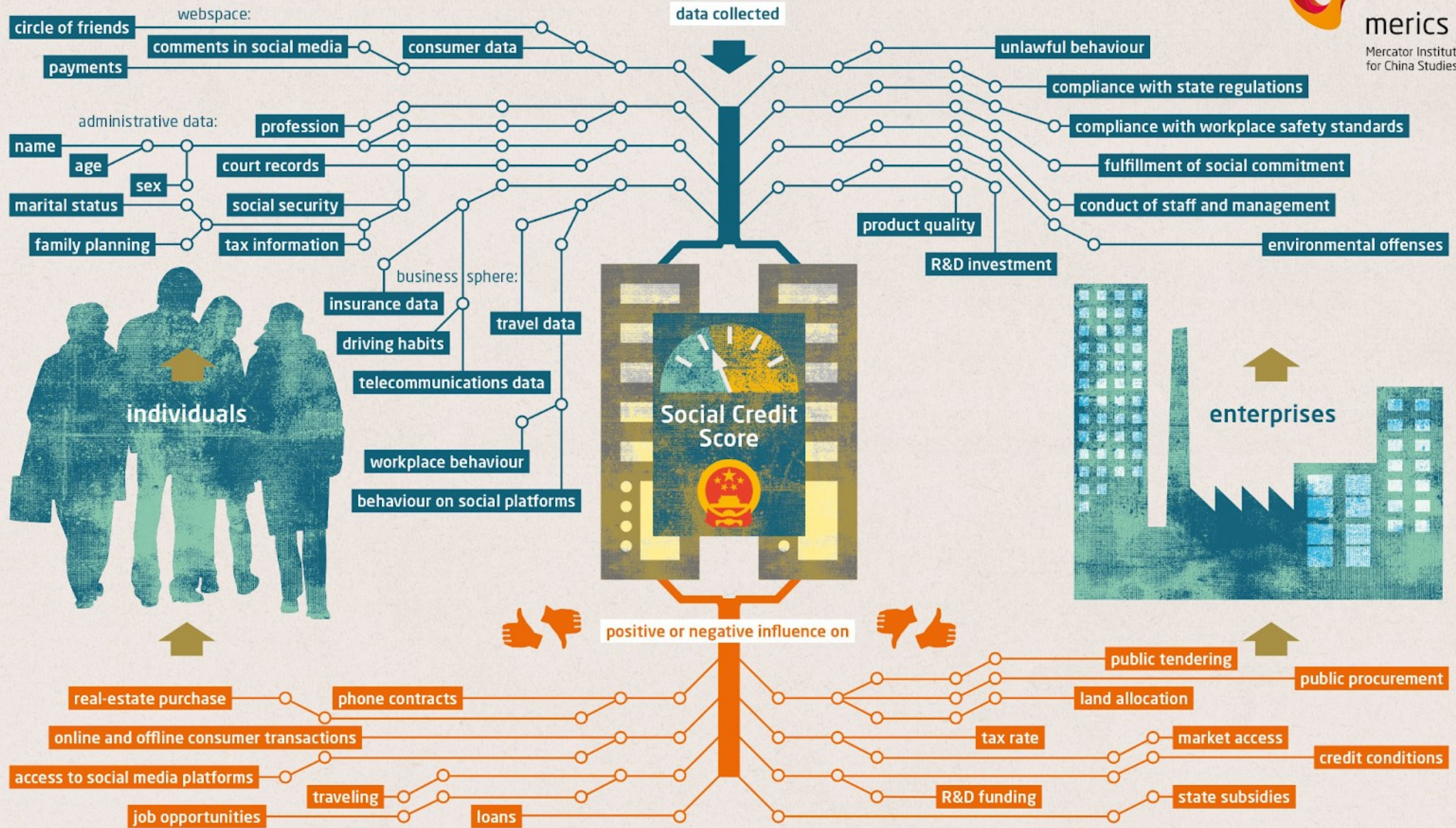
statista

<https://www.statista.com/chart/12236/reach-of-companies-tracking-online-behavior/>



<https://www.digitalinformationworld.com/2020/08/infographic-what-data-are-giant-tech-companies-collecting-from-you.html>

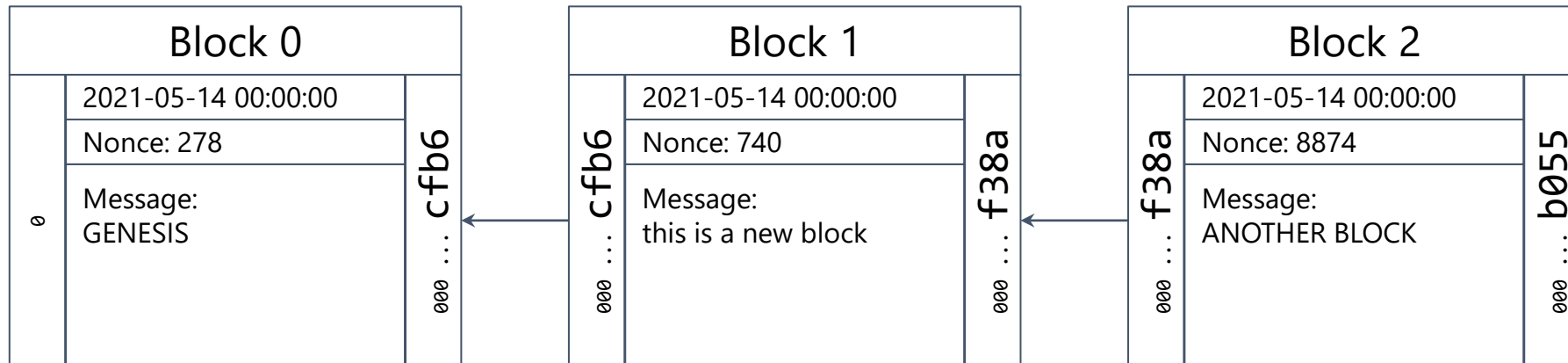
The all-seeing state: China's plans for total data control



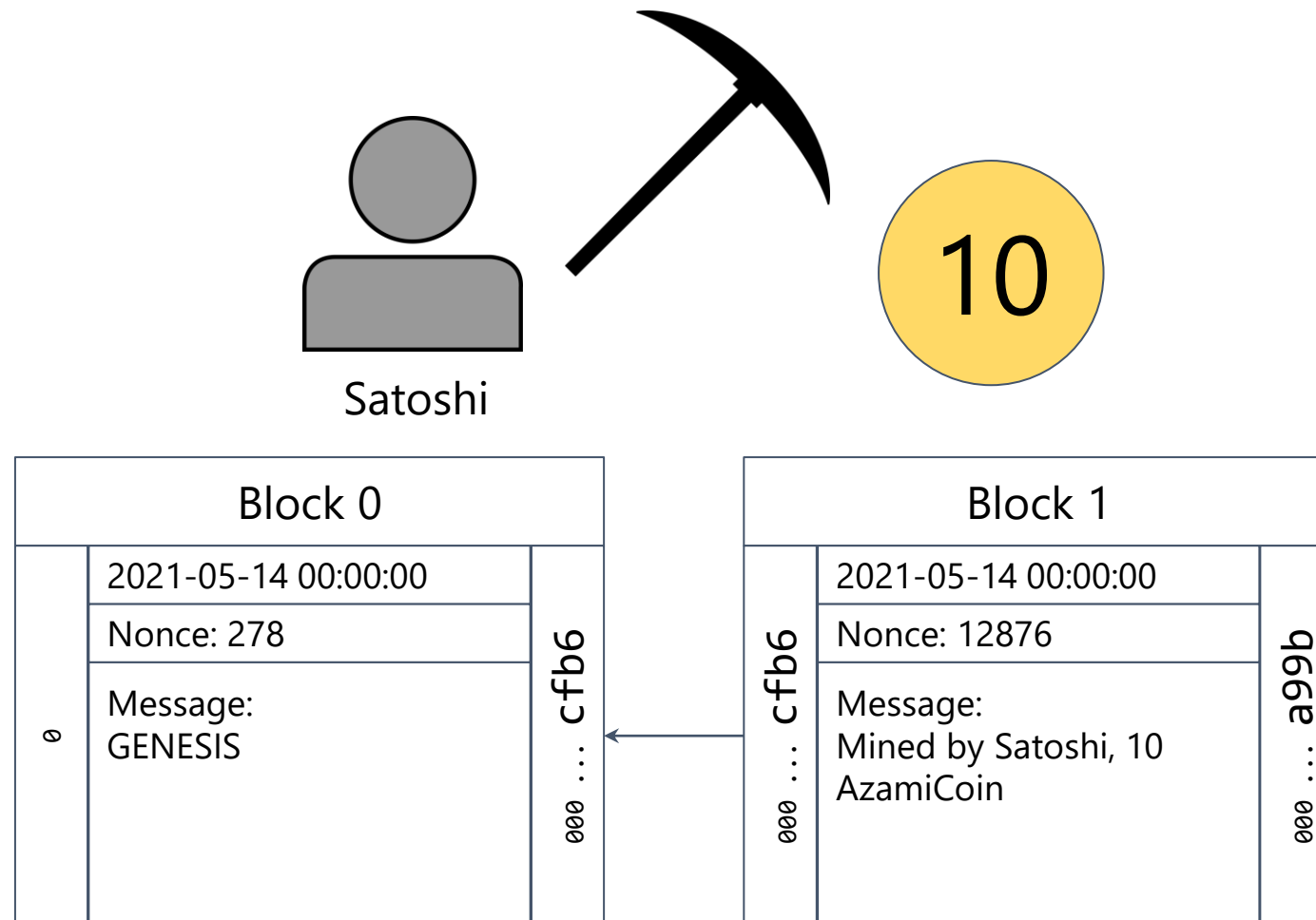
2. Cryptocurrency: Digital Goldmine, or What?

Blockchain in 1 minute

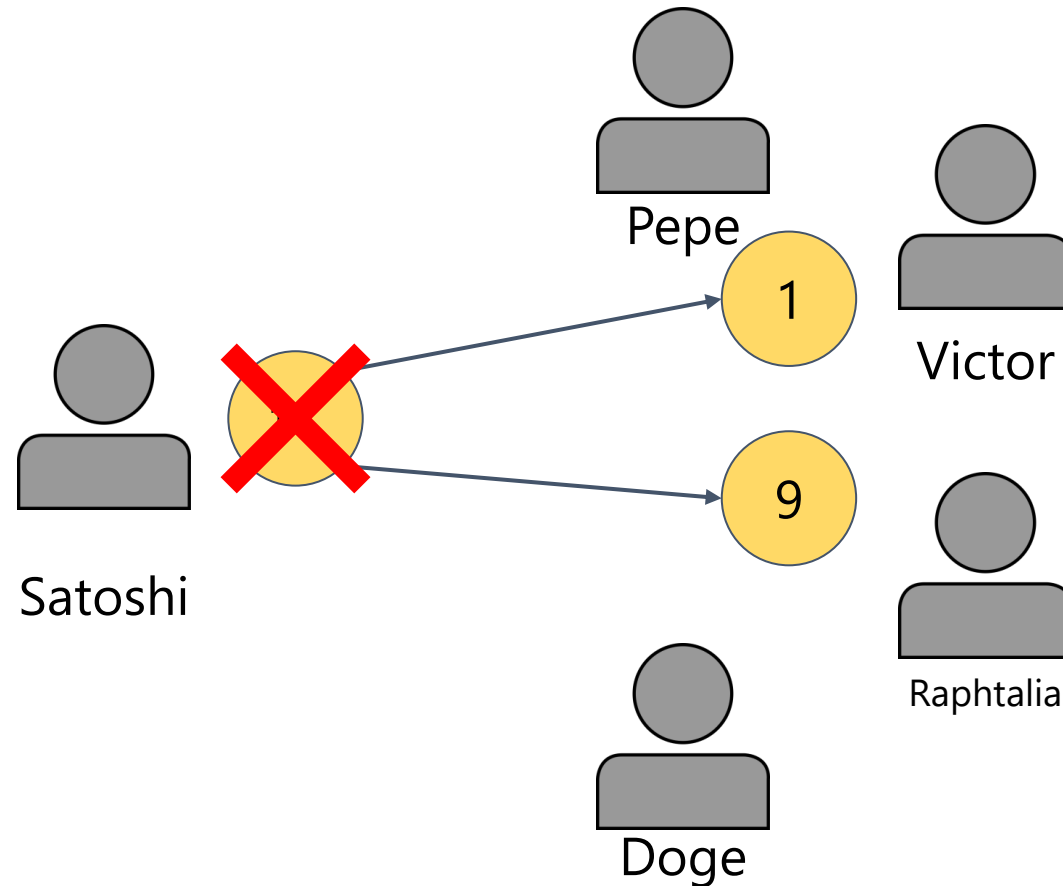
- Blockchain is a series of data structures (**blocks**) that cryptographically verify each other.
- Blocks are created by **mining**, a cryptographic process that **consumes processing power**.



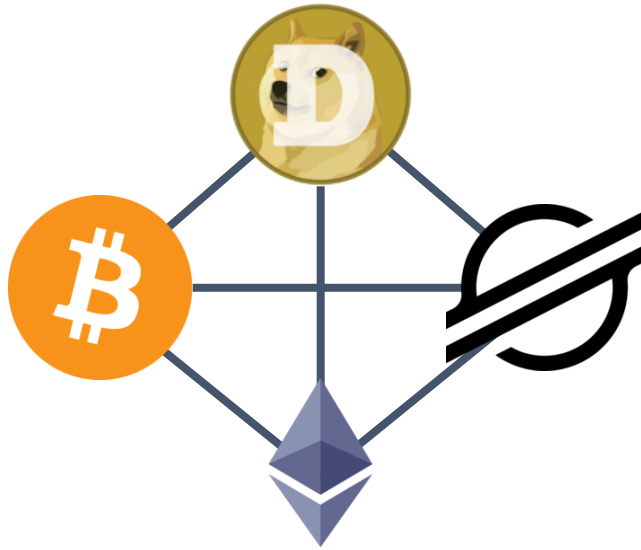
Mining can be used to create **cryptocurrency.**



Transaction of cryptocurrency using cryptographic signatures forms the basis of cryptocurrency.



Many “tokens”, or “currencies” are now available worldwide.

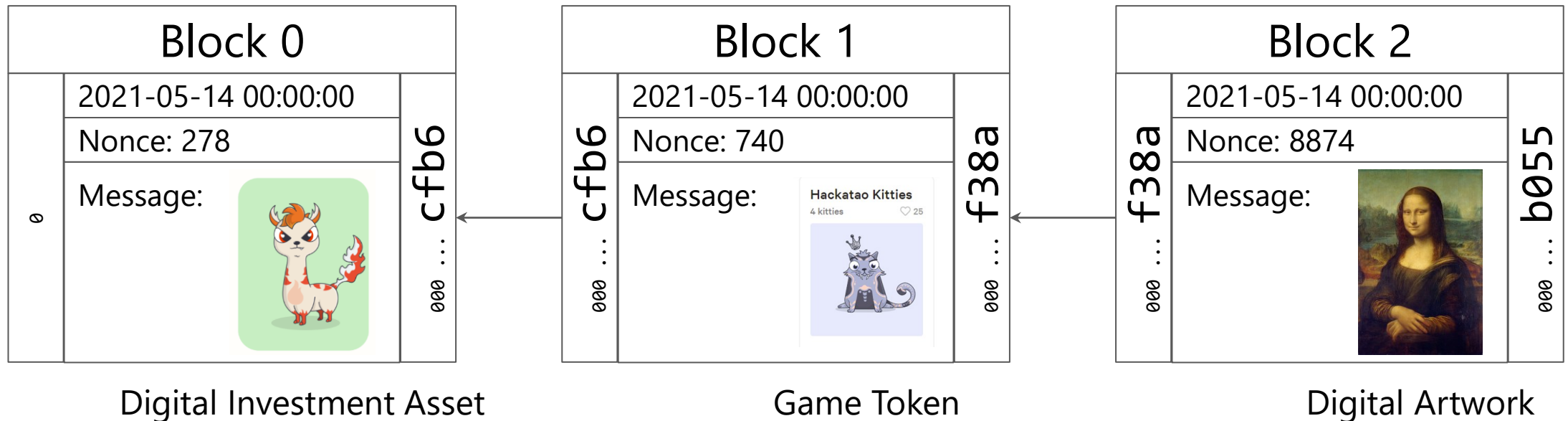


Decentralized trading allows anyone to “become a bank”.

Full list of ERC-20 tokens added			
BNT	QNT	cDAI	Multi-collateral DAI
CVC	RCN	cSAI	KCS
EURS	REP	ENJ	LEND
GNT	RLC	OXT	LOOM
GYEN	SAI	CEL	LRC
KNC	SNT	CELR	NEXO
MANA	STORJ	cUSDC	NPXS
MATIC	sUSD	ELF	PAY
MTL	WBTC	ENG	POWR
NMR	WTC	FET	REN
OKB	ZUSD	HOT	VGX

<https://blog.chainalysis.com/reports/erc20-updates-march-2020>

Specific, “unit” types of digital collectibles form the NFT (non-fungible token) economy.



FACEBOOK     

3. Facebook's Rebrand to Meta

But what is the metaverse?

- What if we can live inside the Internet, 24/7/365?
- Does this *ring a bell*?



[Both images via TechCrunch Japan](#)

What about productivity use?



But can we trust these companies?

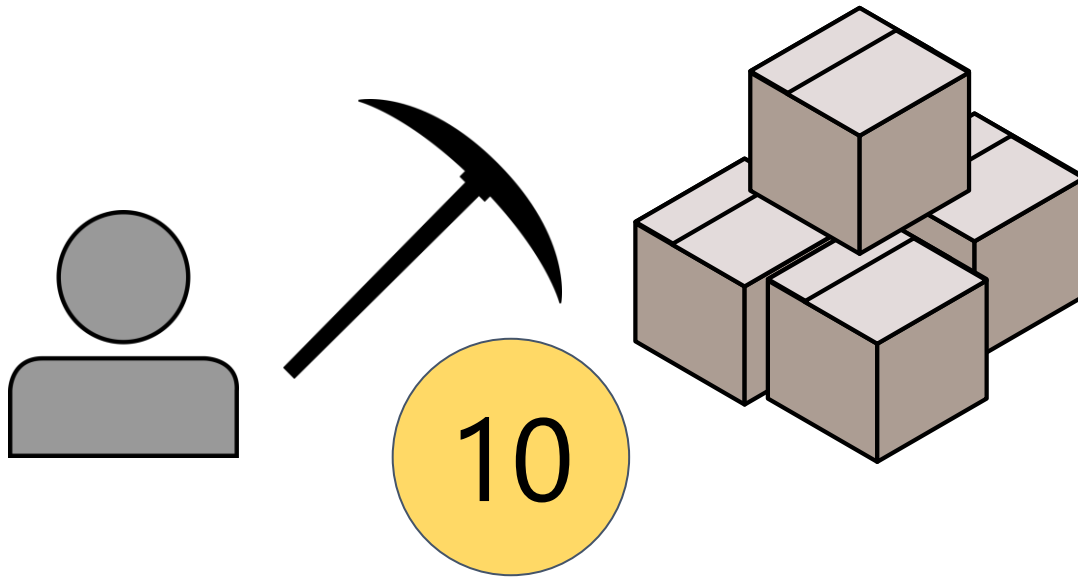
Zuckerberg testified last year before Congress that **[Facebook] removes 94 percent of the hate speech** it finds before a human reports it. But in internal documents, researchers estimated that the company was removing **less than 5 percent of all hate speech on Facebook**.



<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2021/10/25/what-are-the-facebook-papers/>

Crypto-Metaverse: Another Player!

Cryptocurrency entrepreneurs are rapidly creating new services to build digital economies around metaverses.



<https://www.rockpapershotgun.com/things-to-build-in-minecraft-building-ideas>

Is the Government Helping?



Economy and
Cryptocurrency

Ethical Use of
Data

Psychological
Manipulation
of Users

Misinformation
& Fake News