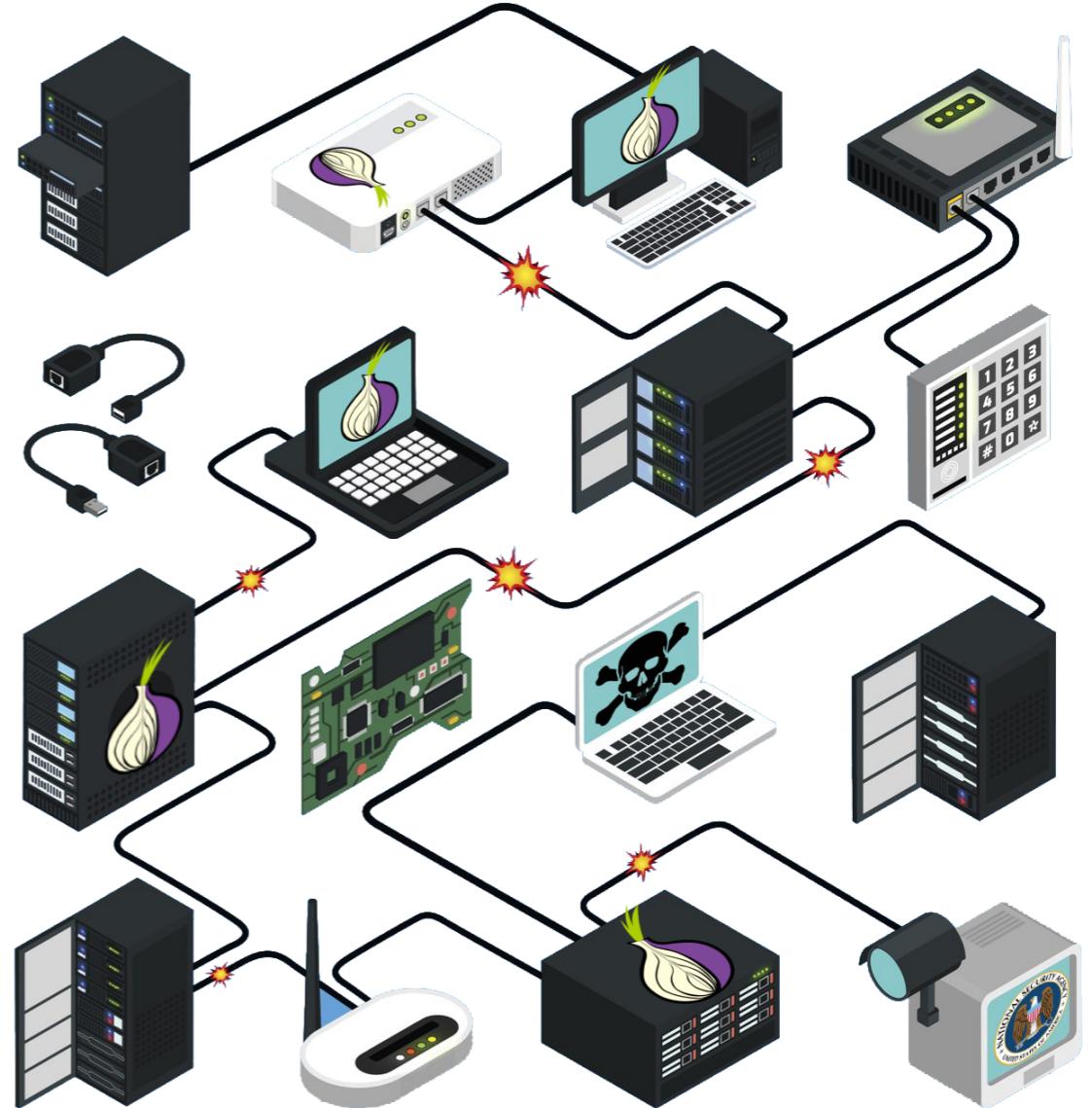


Technical introduction

The Network



Sharing is Caring

Please copy, share, and remix!

grab a copy of the presentation:

github.com/francisco-core/technical-intro-to-tor/



This presentation is under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License



On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog.



*“Remember when, on the Internet,
nobody knew who you were?”*

Why is there a need for privacy?

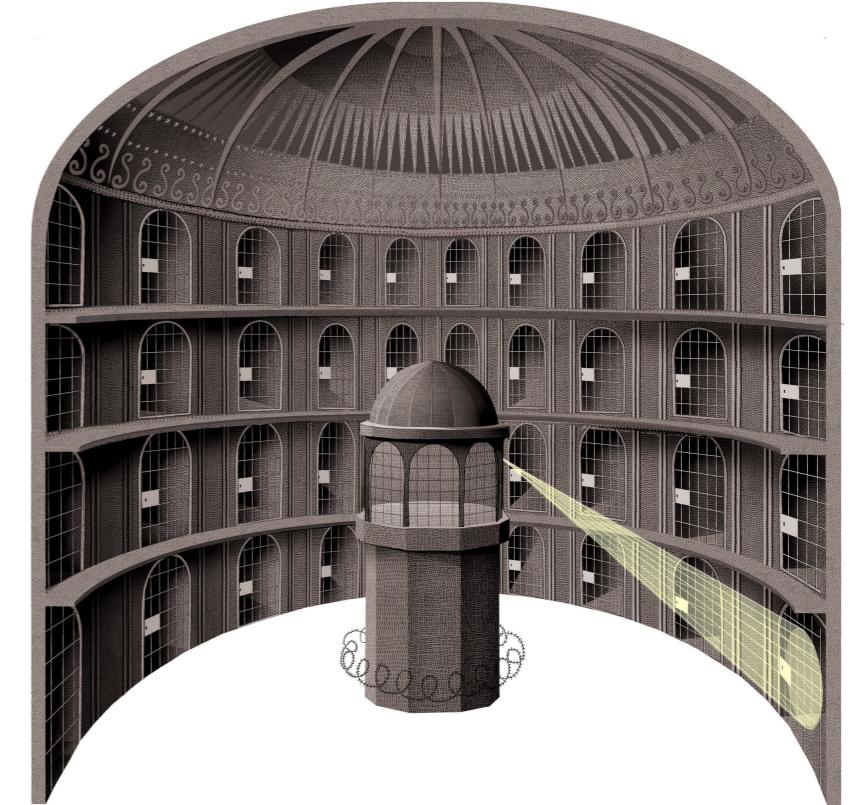
Privacy

gives people a safe place

If everything is recorded, you never know what is going to be used against you

You self-censor

Observation changes behavior



Privacy is essential
for a Free Society

MASS SURVEILLANCE
HAS NO PLACE
IN A FREE AND
DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

PRIVACY
INTERNATIONAL

But...

The Internet is NOT a private place

**With no additional protection
we are exposed**

IP addresses are geolocated

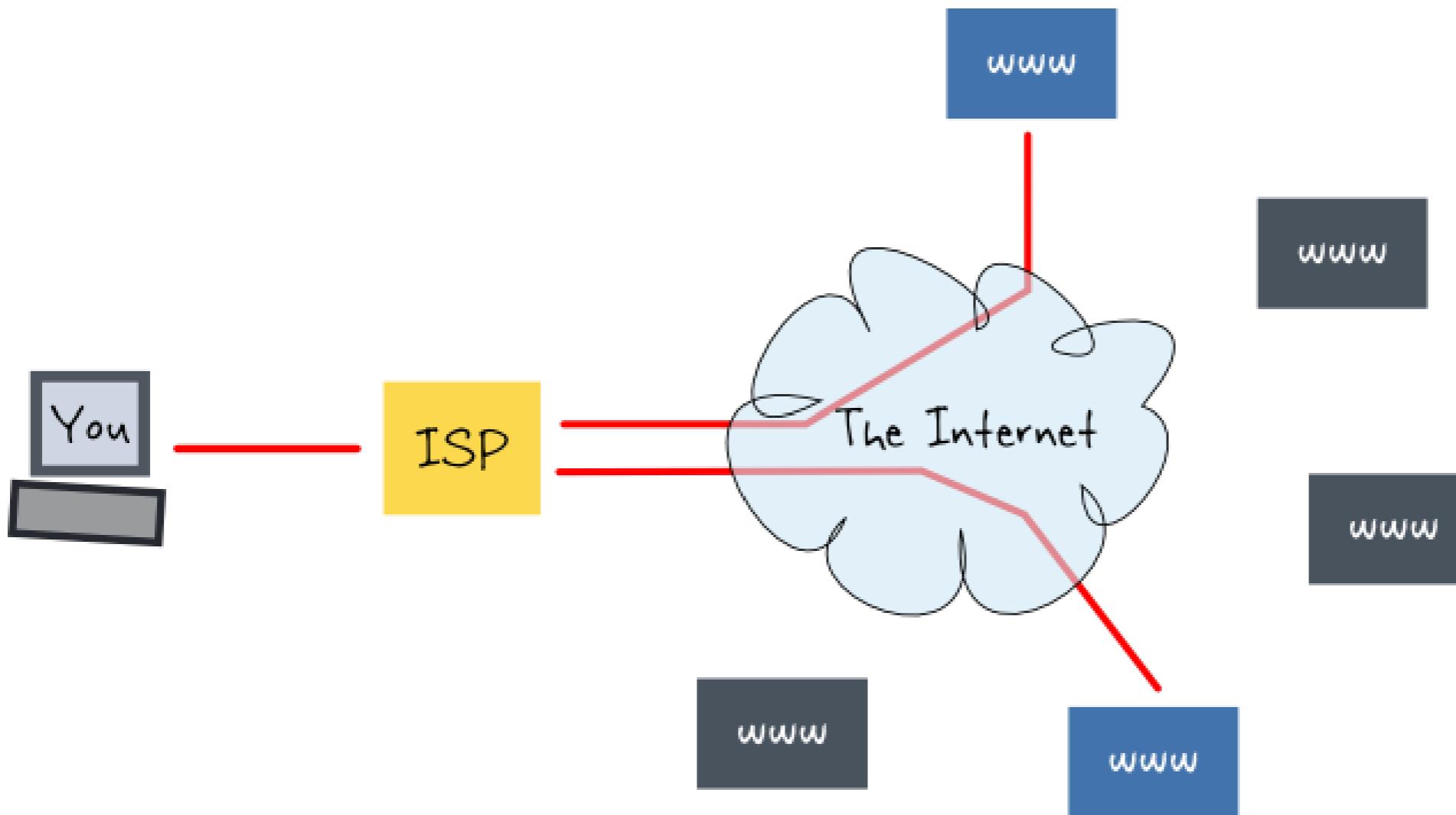
and sent allong with each message



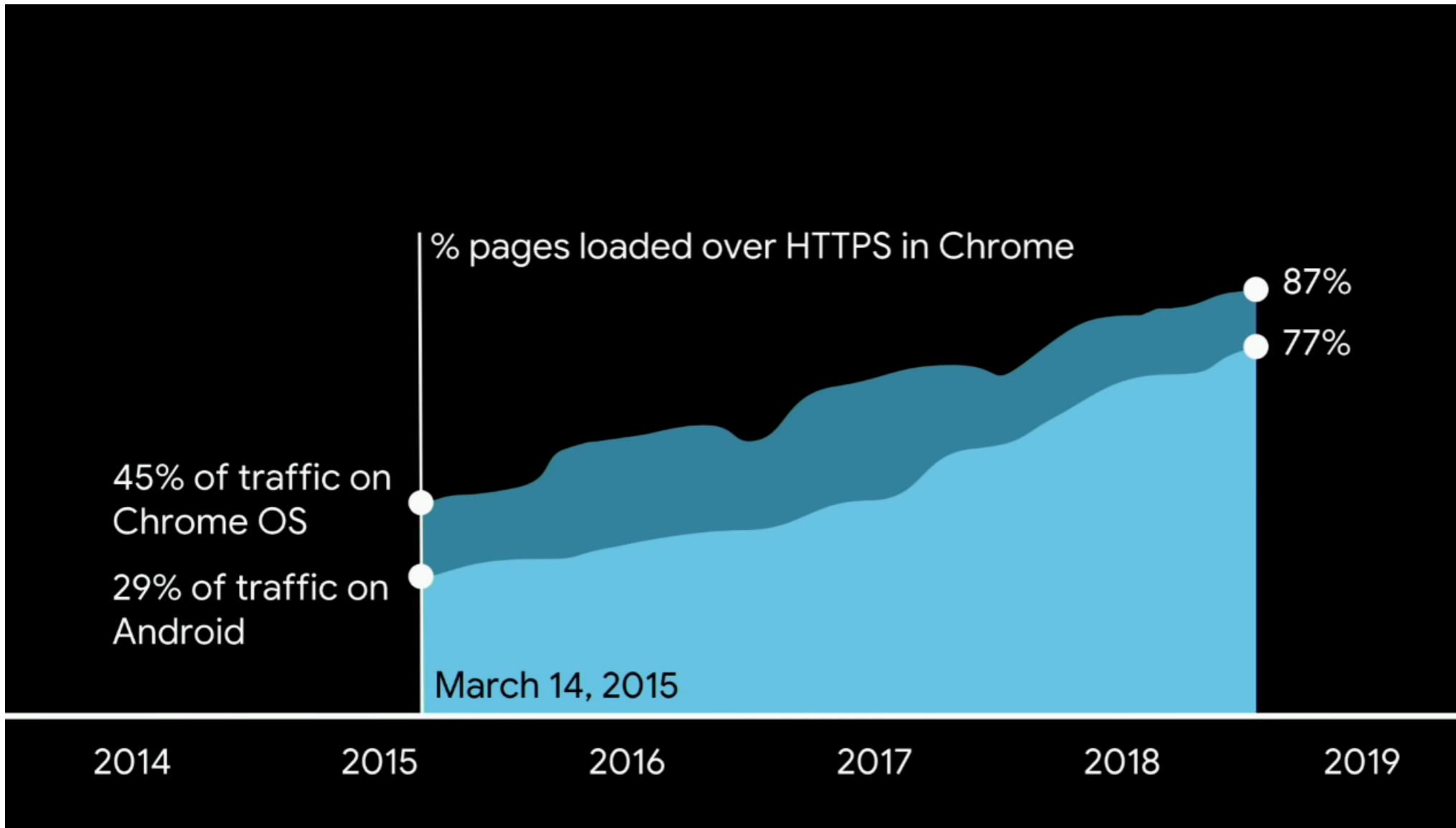
TCP/IP Packet

IP Header	Version	IHL	Type of Service	Total Length	
	Identification		Flags	Fragment Offset	
TCP	Time to Live	Protocol=6 (TCP)		Header Checksum	
	Source Address		Destination Address		
	Options			Padding	
	Source Port		Destination Port		
	Sequence Number			Padding	
	Acknowledgement Number			Padding	
	Data Offset		U A P R S F R C S S Y I G K H T N N	Window	
	Checksum			Urgent Pointer	
	TCP Options			Padding	
	TCP Data				

ISPs know every website you visit / services you use



HTTPS wide deployment is very recent



Cookies

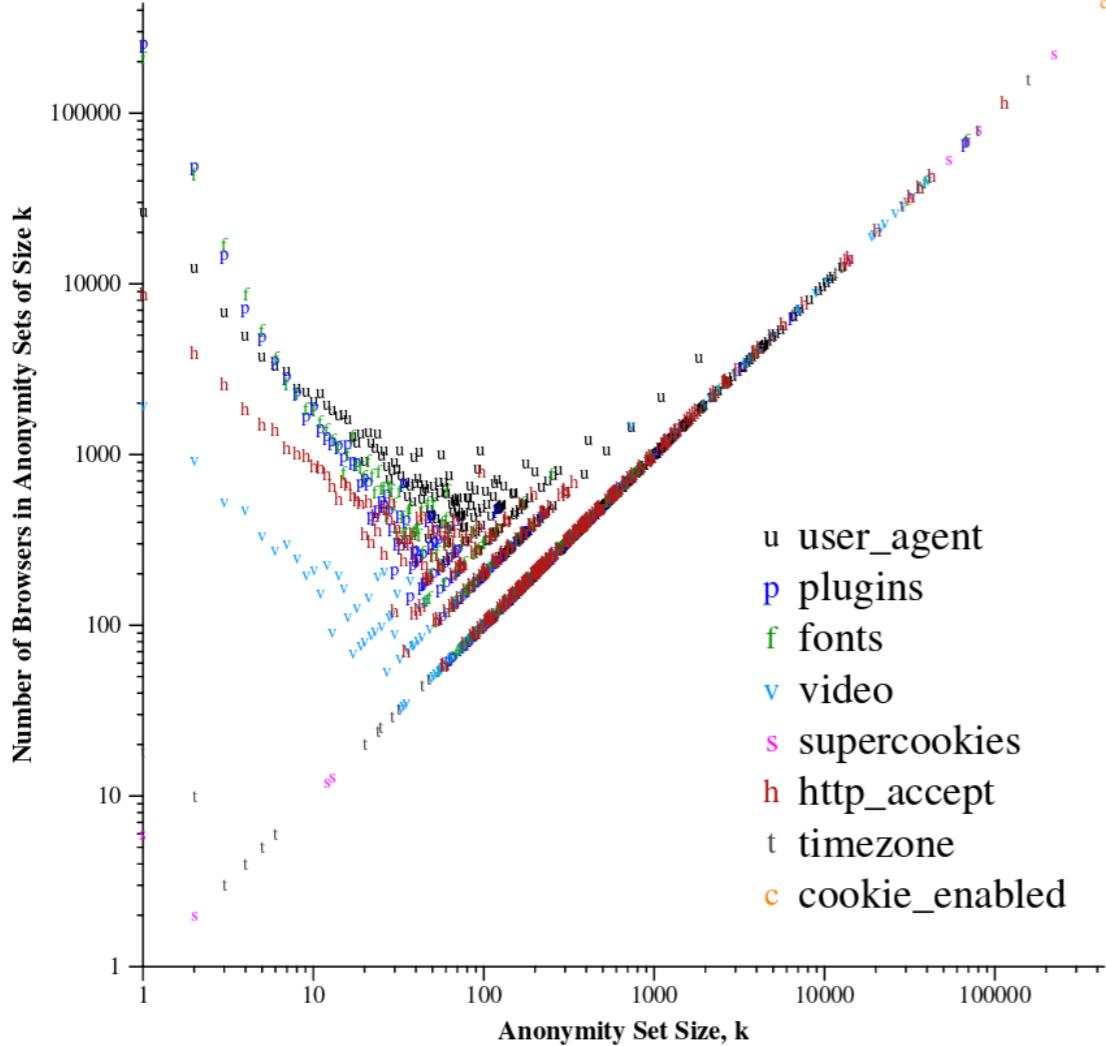
Cookies have been prevented from their original function and abused to **track people** online for marketing purposes.



Screenshot of the Chrome DevTools Storage tab showing cookies for youtube.com. The table lists various cookies with their names, domains, paths, expiration dates, last accessed dates, values, HttpOnly status, and sameSite settings.

Name	Domain	Path	Expires on	Last accessed on	Value	HttpOnly	sameSite
CONSENT	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 10 Jan 2038 07:00:00 UTC	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 00:00:00 UTC	YES+PT.en...	false	Unset
GPS	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 00:00:00 UTC	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 00:00:00 UTC	1	false	Unset
PREF	.youtube.com	/	Fri, 20 Nov 2020 17:00:00 UTC	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 00:00:00 UTC	f1=5000000...	false	Unset
ST-1dplidp	.youtube.com	/	Wed, 21 Nov 2018 00:00:00 UTC	Wed, 21 Nov 2018 00:00:00 UTC	itct=CFIQ3D...	false	Unset
ST-1dzedc5	.youtube.com	/	Thu, 11 Oct 2018 17:00:00 UTC	Thu, 11 Oct 2018 17:00:00 UTC	itct=CFcQ3...	false	Unset
ST-1mnkpl5	.youtube.com	/	Fri, 23 Nov 2018 16:00:00 UTC	Fri, 23 Nov 2018 16:00:00 UTC	itct=CDwQl...	false	Unset
ST-1nmw1ag	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 00:00:00 UTC	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 00:00:00 UTC	itct=CFQQ3...	false	Unset
ST-1tgvznc	.youtube.com	/	Sat, 06 Oct 2018 12:00:00 UTC	Sat, 06 Oct 2018 12:00:00 UTC	itct=CFMQp...	false	Unset
ST-1y3a62l	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 25 Nov 2018 00:00:00 UTC	Sun, 25 Nov 2018 00:00:00 UTC	itct=CD4QL...	false	Unset
ST-3zqc6r	.youtube.com	/	Wed, 21 Nov 2018 00:00:00 UTC	Wed, 21 Nov 2018 00:00:00 UTC	itct=CFYQ3...	false	Unset
ST-10ibu86	.youtube.com	/	Fri, 05 Oct 2018 13:00:00 UTC	Fri, 05 Oct 2018 13:00:00 UTC	itct=CFcQlD...	false	Unset
ST-14h6oq	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 30 Sep 2018 00:00:00 UTC	Sun, 30 Sep 2018 00:00:00 UTC	itct=CFYQ3...	false	Unset
ST-20xet5	.youtube.com	/	Fri, 05 Oct 2018 11:00:00 UTC	Fri, 05 Oct 2018 11:00:00 UTC	itct=CE8Q3...	false	Unset

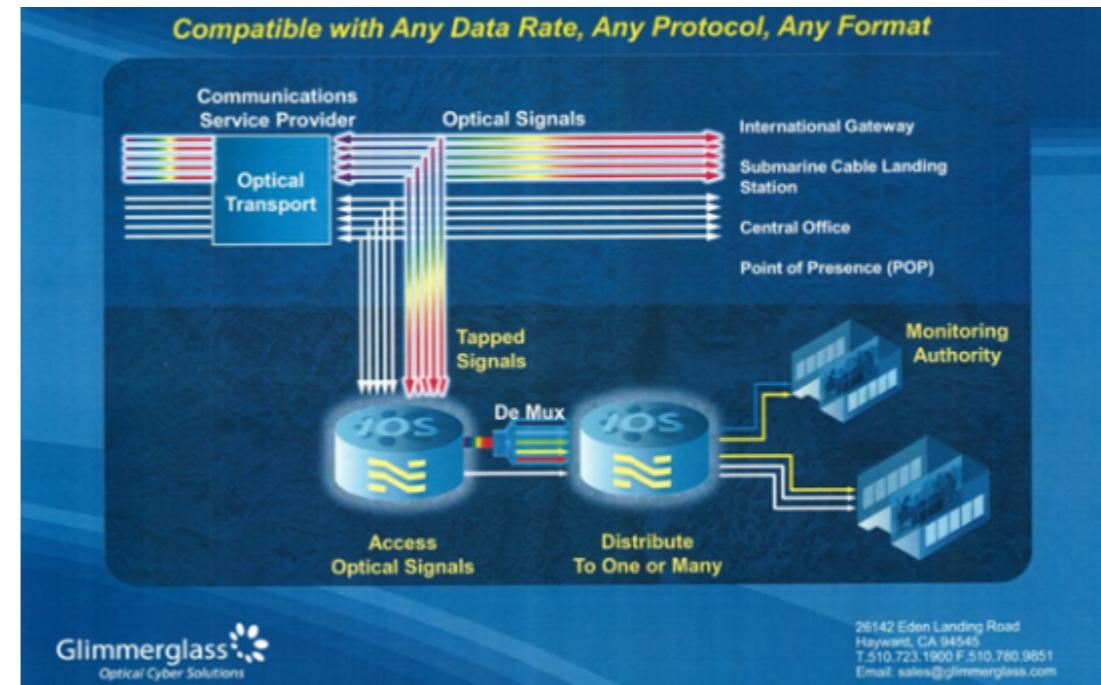
Browser Fingerprinting



Browser Characteristic	bits of identifying information	one in x browsers have this value	value
Limited supercookie test	0.35	1.27	DOM localStorage: Yes, DOM sessionStorage: Yes, IE userData: No
Hash of canvas fingerprint	8.67	406.34	fcef380b67fa405ef000dd07bfc0c479
Screen Size and Color Depth	2.52	5.74	1920x1080x24
Browser Plugin Details	1.34	2.54	undefined
Time Zone	3.19	9.15	0
DNT Header Enabled?	1.09	2.13	False
HTTP_ACCEPT Headers	2.15	4.44	text/html, */*; q=0.01 gzip, deflate, br en-US,en;q=0.5
Hash of WebGL fingerprint	12.41	5438.45	e5db811ae893509209a2cf50e6d6a0aa
Language	0.96	1.95	en-US
System Fonts	9.63	792.73	Arial, Bitstream Vera Sans Mono, Bookman Old Style, Calibri, Cambria, Century Schoolbook, Courier, Courier New, Helvetica, Palatino, Palatino Linotype, Times, Times New Roman, Wingdings 2, Wingdings 3 (via javascript)
Platform	3.36	10.28	Linux x86_64
User Agent	12.78	7025.26	Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Fedora; Linux x86_64; rv:63.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/63.0
Touch Support	0.56	1.47	Max touchpoints: 0; TouchEvent supported: false; onTouchStart supported: false
Are Cookies Enabled?	0.21	1.15	Yes

from a "How Unique Is Your Web Browser?" by Peter Eckersley

Passive Analysis of the Internet Backbone



Surveillance Capitalism

The business model where **data is money**



driving force
of surveillance

So, what do we do about it?

We create an anonymity network on top
of a non-anonymous one

yeah, Computer Science has wonders like these

Approaches to Privacy and Anonymity

There are various approaches to anonymity online, with different trade-offs.

Single Proxy / VPN

**PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY
WITH A VPN TUNNEL**

Private Internet Access® VPN Service encrypts your connection and provides you with an **anonymous IP** to protect your privacy.

[GET STARTED NOW >](#)

OpenVPN, PPTP and IPSEC/L2TP VPN
Tunnels from only \$3.33/mo*

anonymouse IP

PC MAG.COM EDITOR'S CHOICE tom's guide READER'S CHOICE PC MAGAZINE

ExpressVPN

My Account Get Started

Amplify the entire Internet

#1 Trusted leader in VPN

High speed, **ultra secure** and easy to use. Instant setup.

[Get ExpressVPN →](#)

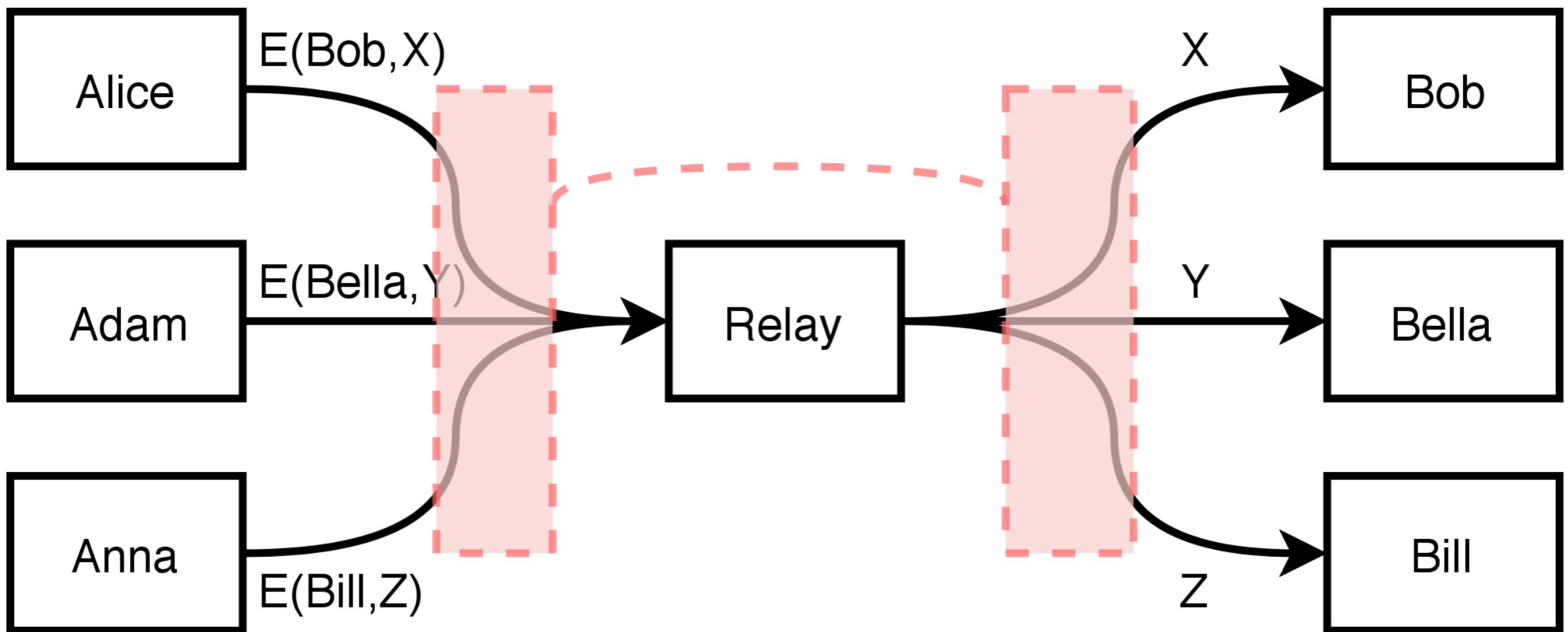
ultra secure

30-day money-back guarantee

Winning PC Awards

Need help? Chat with us!

Single Proxy / VPN



Major Flaws

- 1. Trust**
- 2. Liability for the Provider**
- 3. Traffic Correlation**

1. We have to Trust

privacy by Policy

[Google Privacy & Terms](#)

Overview **Privacy Policy** Terms of Service Technologies and Principles FAQ My Account

Privacy Policy

- Information we collect
- How we use information we collect
- Transparency and choice
- Information you share
- Accessing and updating your personal information
- Information we share
- Information security
- When this Privacy Policy applies
- Compliance and cooperation with regulatory authorities
- Changes
- Specific product practices
- Other useful privacy and security related materials
- Self Regulatory Frameworks
- Key terms

Welcome to the Google Privacy Policy

When you use Google services, you trust us with your information. This Privacy Policy is meant to help you understand what data we collect, why we collect it, and what we do with it. This is important; we hope you will take time to read it carefully. And remember, you can find controls to manage your information and protect your privacy and security at [My Account](#).

Privacy Policy

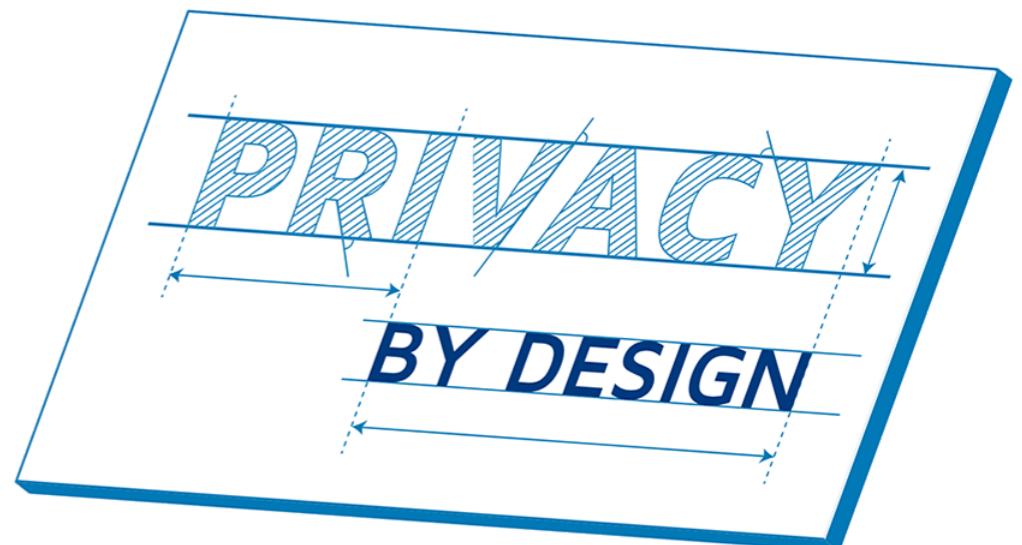
Last modified: August 19, 2015 ([view archived versions](#)) [Hide examples](#) [Download PDF version](#)

There are many different ways you can use our services – to search for and share information, to communicate with other people or to create new content. When you share information with us, for example by creating a [Google Account](#), we can make those services even better – to show you more relevant search results and ads, to help you connect with people or to make sharing with others quicker and easier. As you use our services, we want you to be clear how we're using information and the ways in which you can protect your privacy.

Our Privacy Policy explains:

- What information we collect and why we collect it.
- How we use that information.
- The choices we offer, including how to access and update information.

privacy by Design



2. Liability for the Provider



Federal Bureau of Investigation

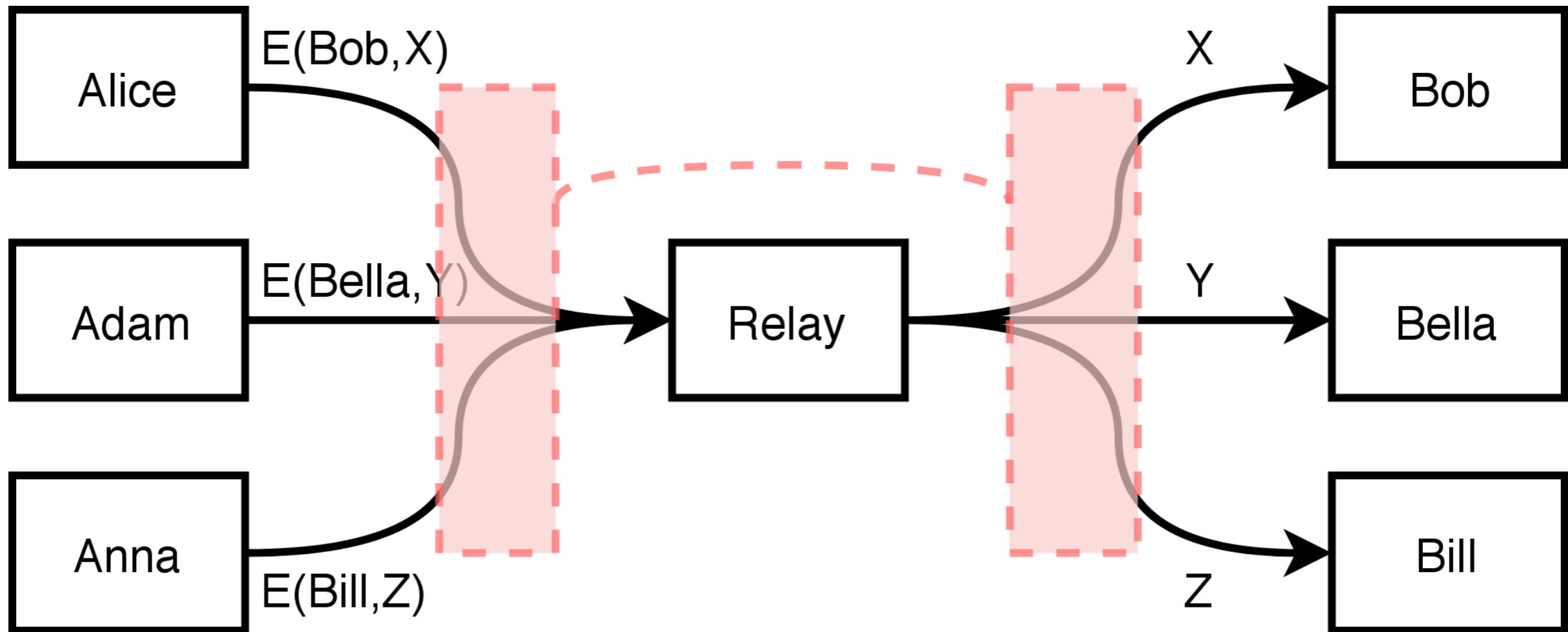
SUBJECT: NATIONAL SECURITY LETTERS

FOLDER: MODEL LETTERS ET AL

In accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 2709(c)(1), I certify that a disclosure of the fact that the FBI has sought or obtained access to the information sought by this letter may endanger the national security of the United States, interfere with a criminal, counterterrorism, or counterintelligence investigation, interfere with diplomatic relations, or endanger the life or physical safety of a person. Accordingly, 18 U.S.C. § 2709(c)(1) and (2) prohibits you, or any officer, employee, or agent of yours, from disclosing this letter, other than to those to whom disclosure is necessary to comply with the letter or to an attorney to obtain legal advice or legal assistance with respect to this letter.

In accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 2709(c)(3), you are directed to notify any persons to whom you have disclosed this letter that they are also subject to the nondisclosure requirement and are therefore also prohibited from disclosing the letter to anyone else.

3. Traffic Correlation



Our activities are linkable

| A lead can lead to everything else

VPNs are Pseudonymous

Through fingerprinting it is possible to identify users

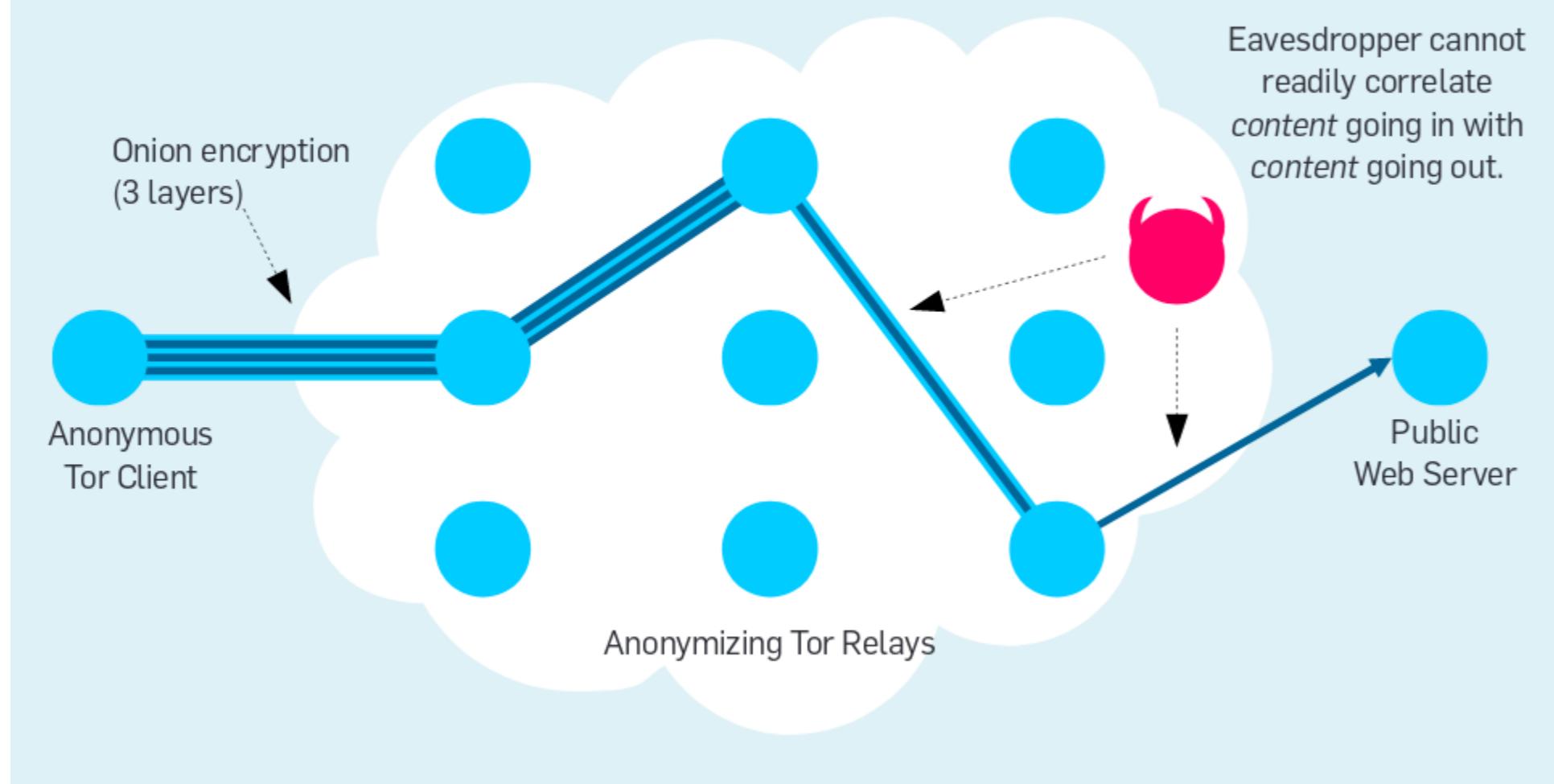
Anonymity is Hard

Onion Routing

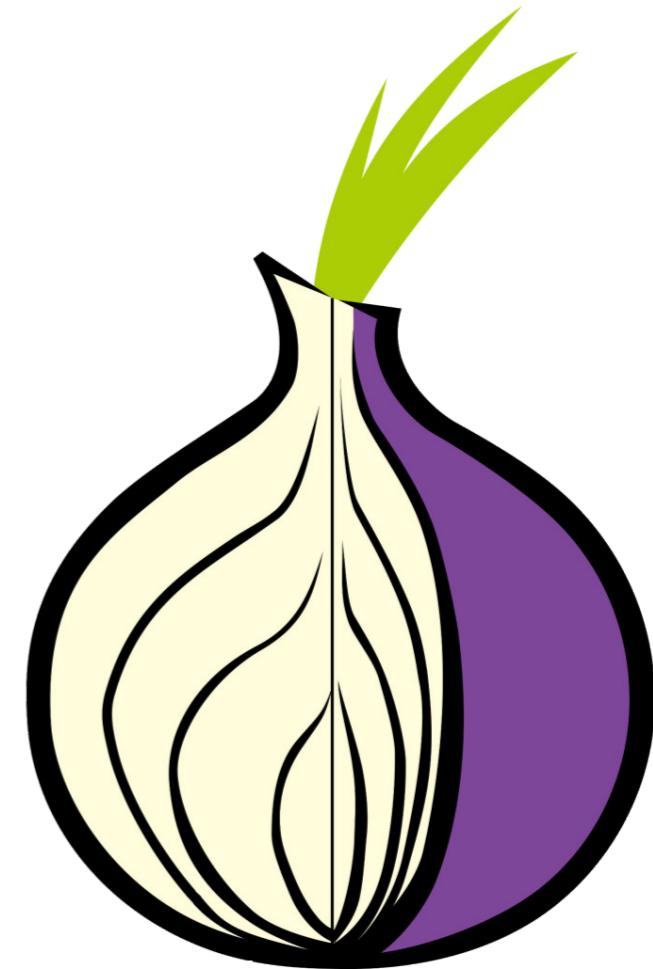
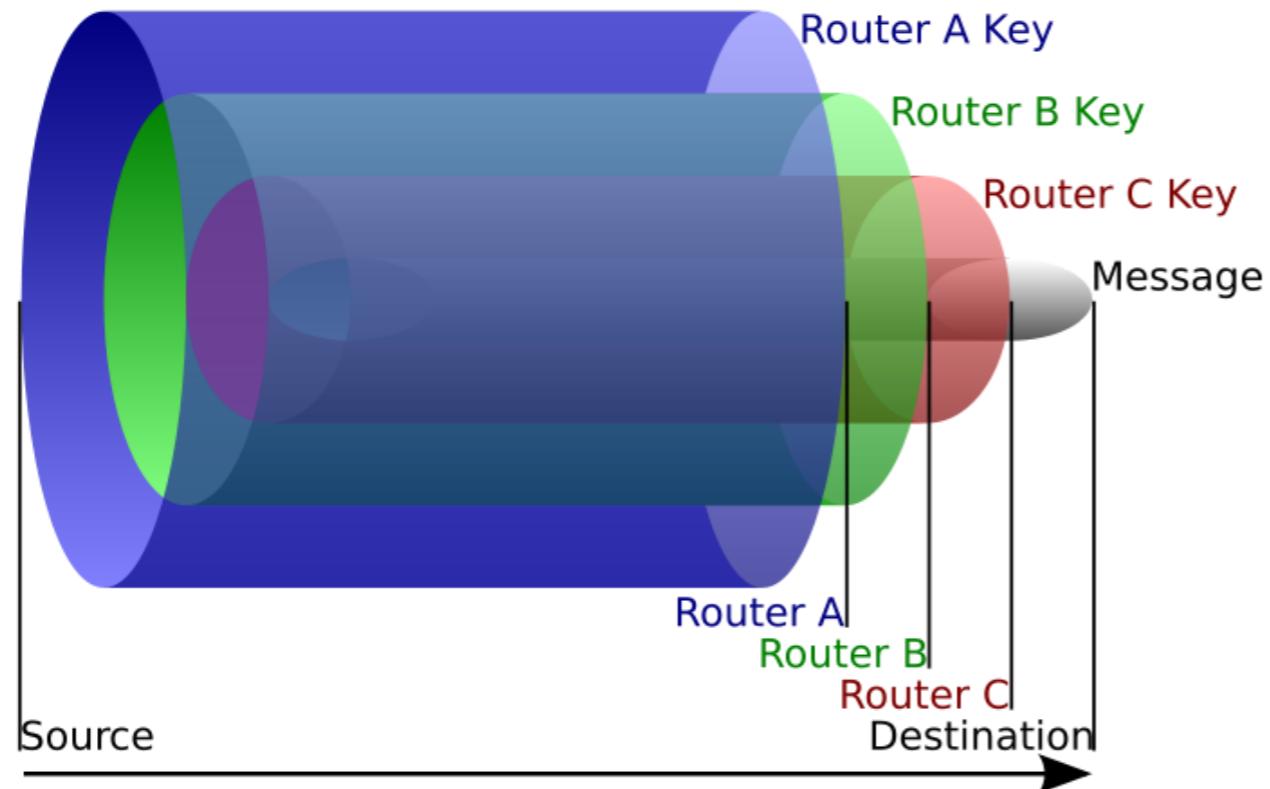
- use a chain of relays
- public key encryption for each of them

Onion Routing

Figure 1. Onion routing.



I don't see any onions there...

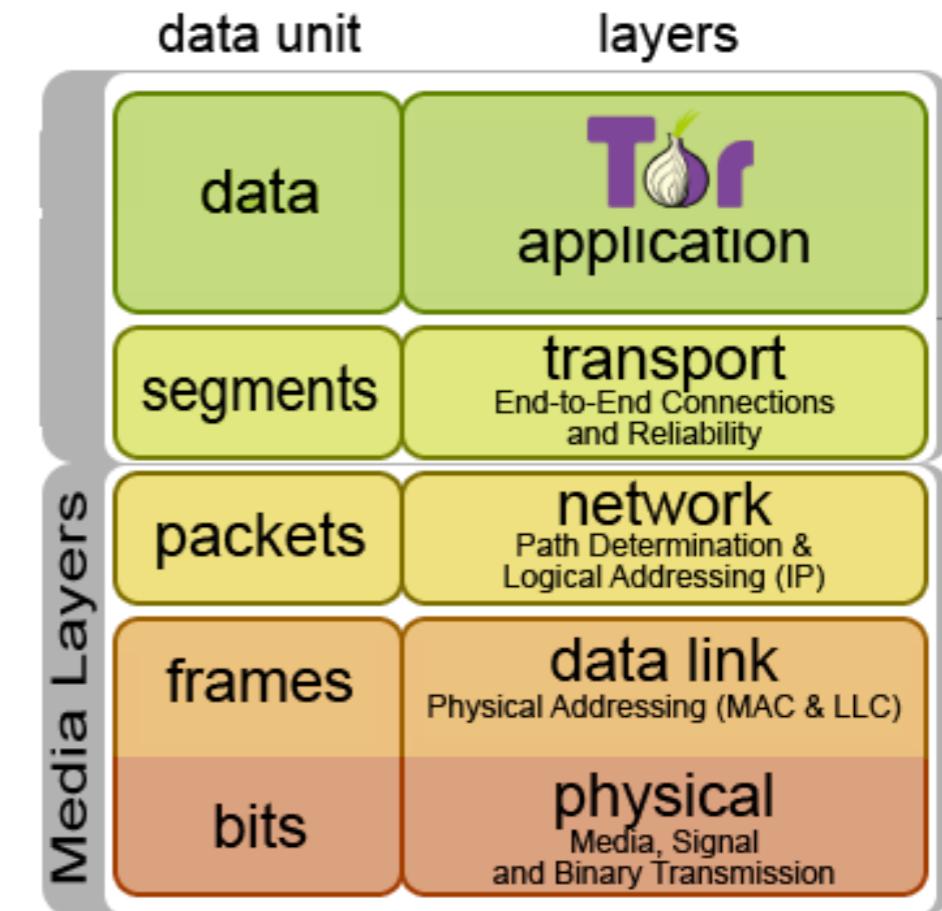
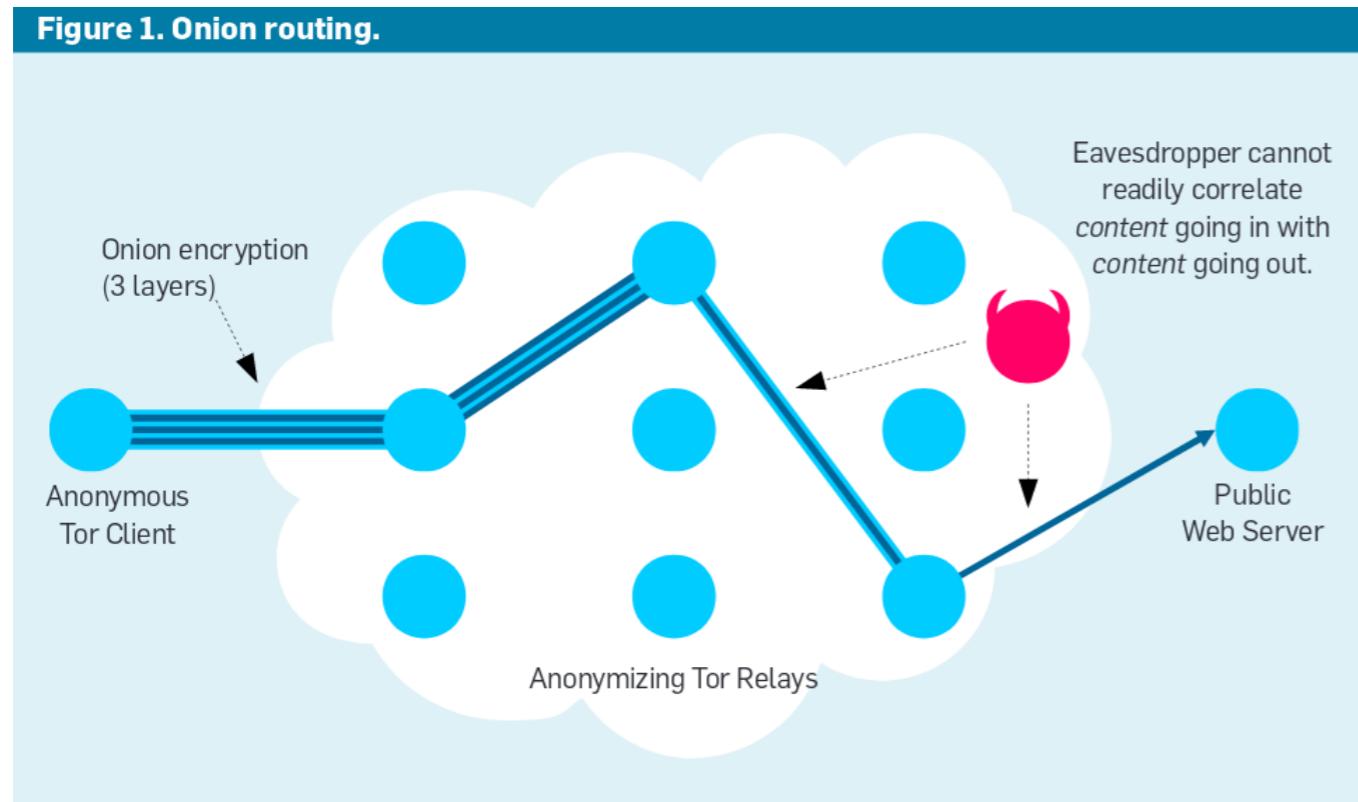


The *onion pattern* also comes up when we think of internet packets and their layers

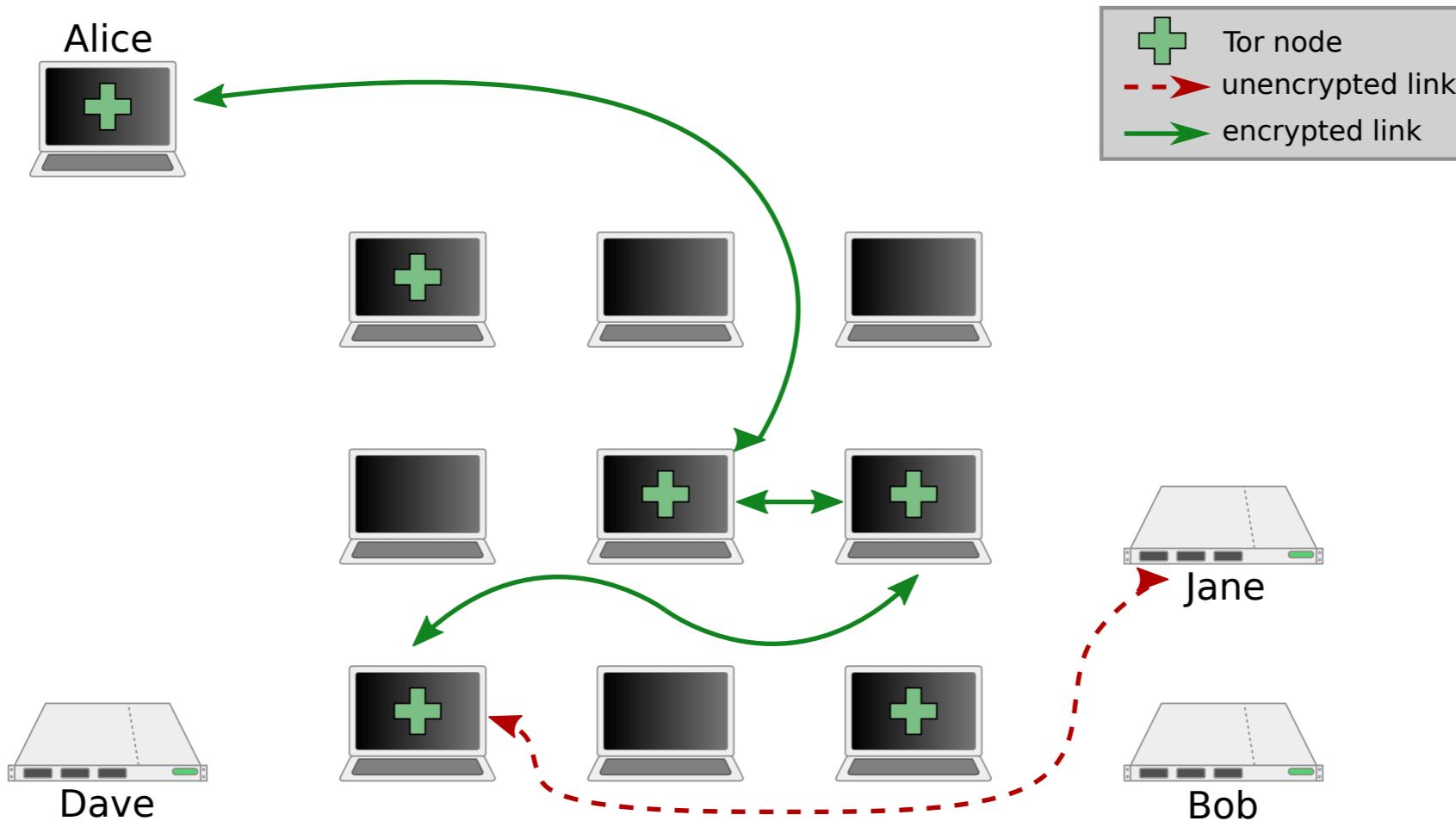
Tor implements Onion Routing as an **overlay network**

Designed to anonymize any TCP-based applications
through transparent proxy settings

Figure 1. Onion routing.

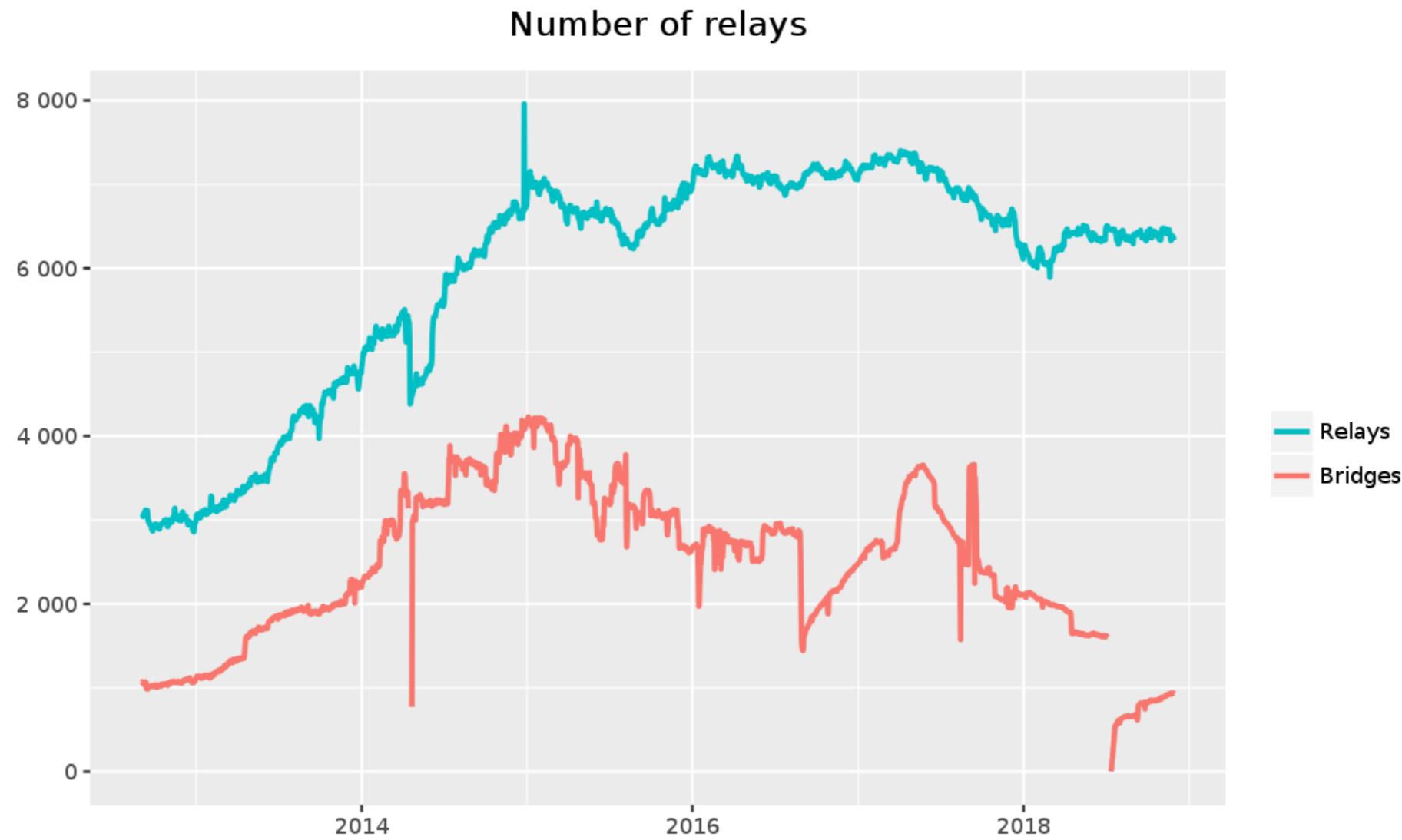


Onion Circuit



A circuit is a sequence of 3 nodes: **Guard, Middle and Exit**

Nodes are ran by **Volunteers** all around the World



The Tor Project - <https://metrics.torproject.org/>

Not all Volunteers have good intentions

Tor is resistant to **bad relays** to a certain extent

But if they are too many it harms the network and some users might get de-anonymised

How to decide which nodes are part of the network?

Consensus Mechanism

MORIA1 - 128.31.0.39 - RELAY AUTHORITY
TOR26 - 86.59.21.38 - RELAY AUTHORITY
DIZUM - 194.109.206.212 - RELAY AUTHORITY
TONGA - 82.94.251.203 - BRIDGE AUTHORITY
GABELMOO - 131.188.40.189 - RELAY AUTHORITY
DANNENBERG - 193.23.244.244 - RELAY AUTHORITY
URRAS - 208.83.223.34 - RELAY AUTHORITY
MAATUSKA - 171.25.193.9 - RELAY AUTHORITY
FARAVAHAR - 154.35.175.225 - RELAY AUTHORITY
LONGCLAW - 199.254.238.52 - RELAY AUTHORITY



Anyone can see the votes of each relay by downloading

`http://[directory_authority]/tor/status-vote/current/consensus/`

Typically this is fetched through http but now it can be fetched through tor, leaving less traces that the user is using tor.

The **consensus status** can be found [here](#)

Your computer chooses the circuit

Anonymity is Fragile

Everything we do is identifying:

- the pattern of our browsing habits
- the way we write text
- the way we code
- our typing speed, etc

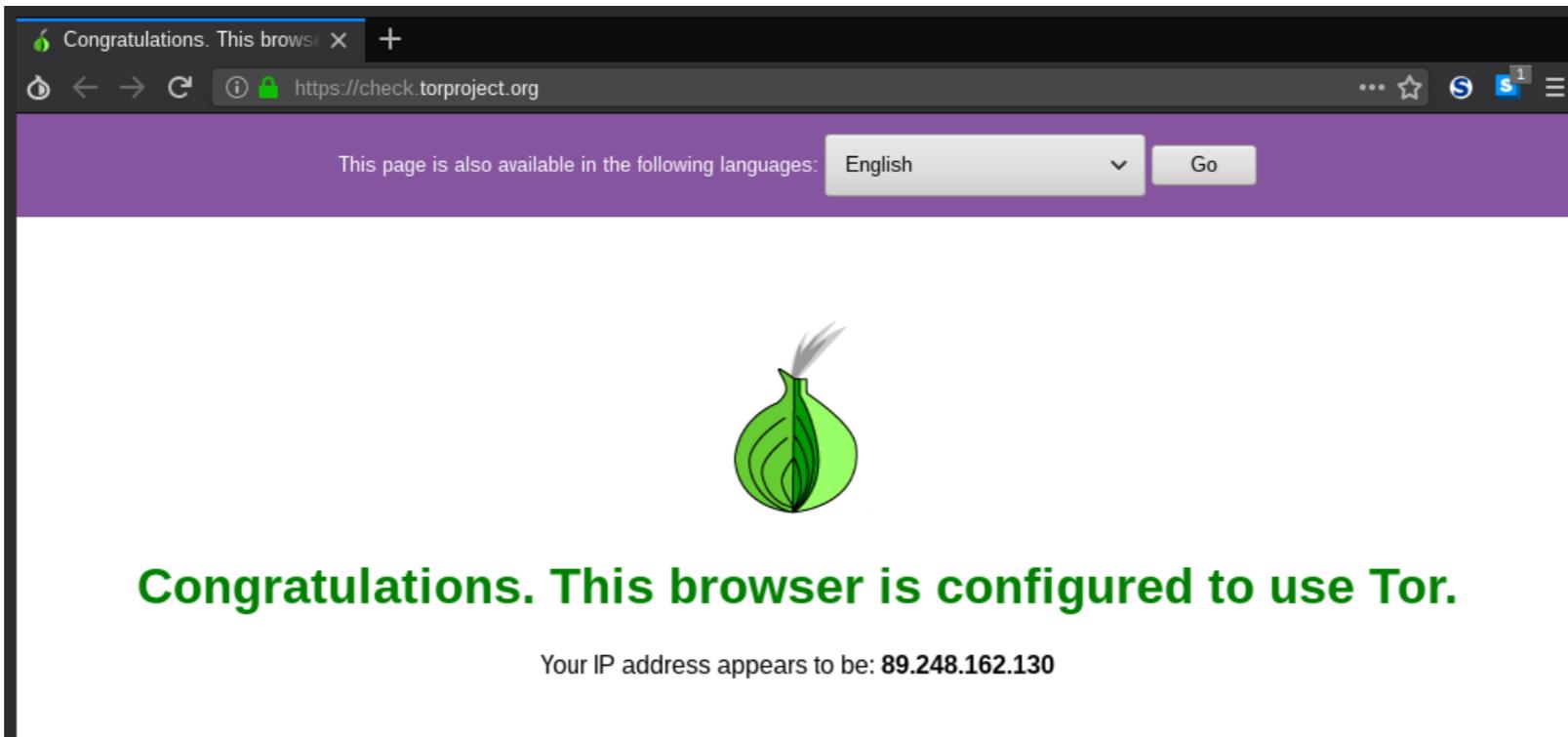
This means that

Tor alone is **not enough**

Tor Browser

A browser developed by the Tor Project that:

- sends traffic through the Tor network
- Implements additional measures to prevent the user to unwittingly giving away her/his identity

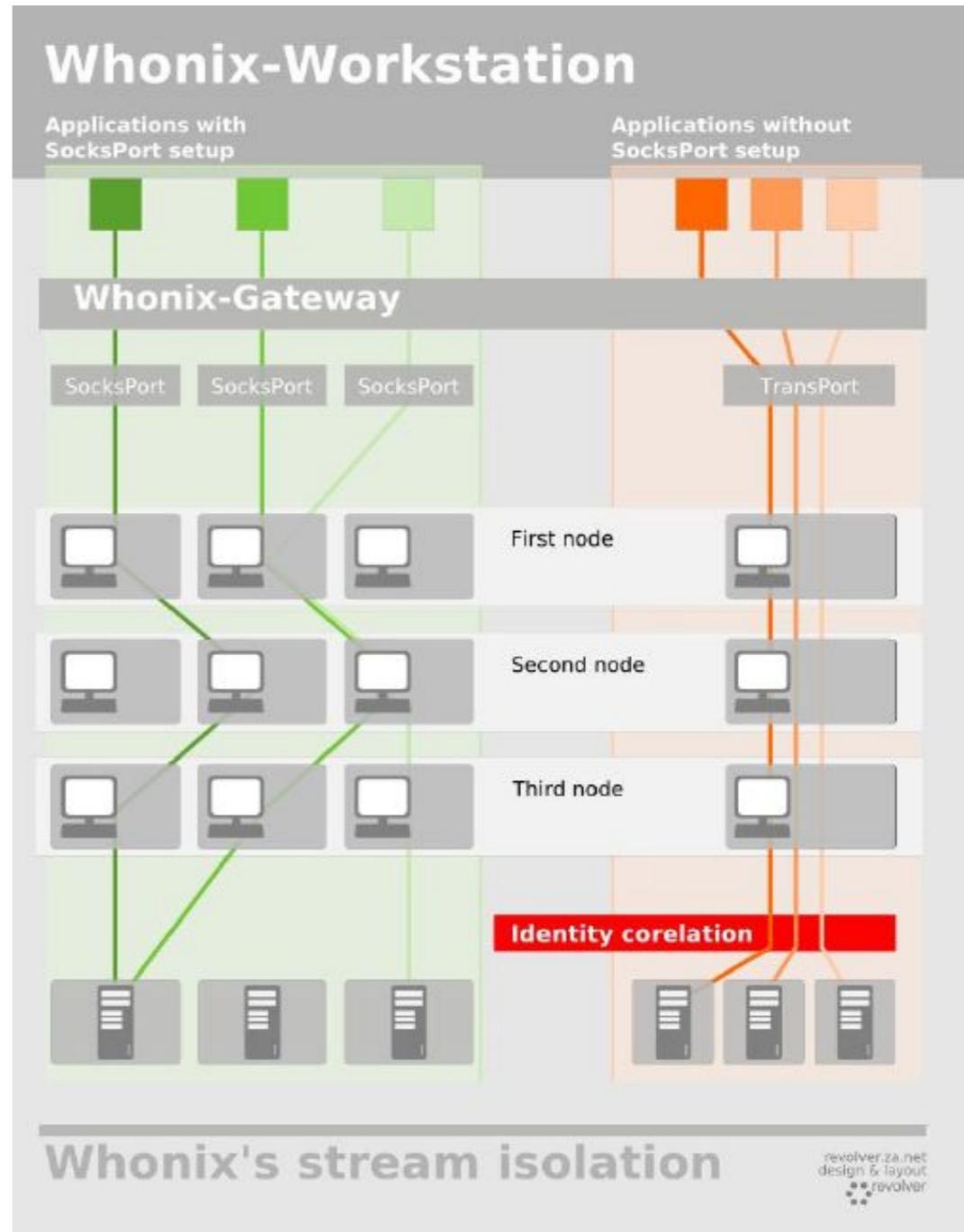


Stream Isolation

Identity Correlation: If the user is reading emails at the same time of browsing the web the activities can be correlated and the user identified

To fight this Tor implements **Stream Isolation**
Creates a different circuit for each website / applic.

Onion Circuits	
Circuit	Status
remedy, Ox04, lumumba	Built
54.230.12.170:443	Succeeded
192.0.77.2:443	Succeeded
54.230.12.170:443	Succeeded
151.101.36.102:443	Succeeded
151.101.36.102:443	Succeeded
151.101.36.102:443	Succeeded
52.85.70.138:443	Succeeded
54.152.100.110:443	Succeeded
52.85.70.138:443	Succeeded
23.37.43.27:80	Succeeded
151.101.36.102:443	Succeeded
151.101.36.102:443	Succeeded



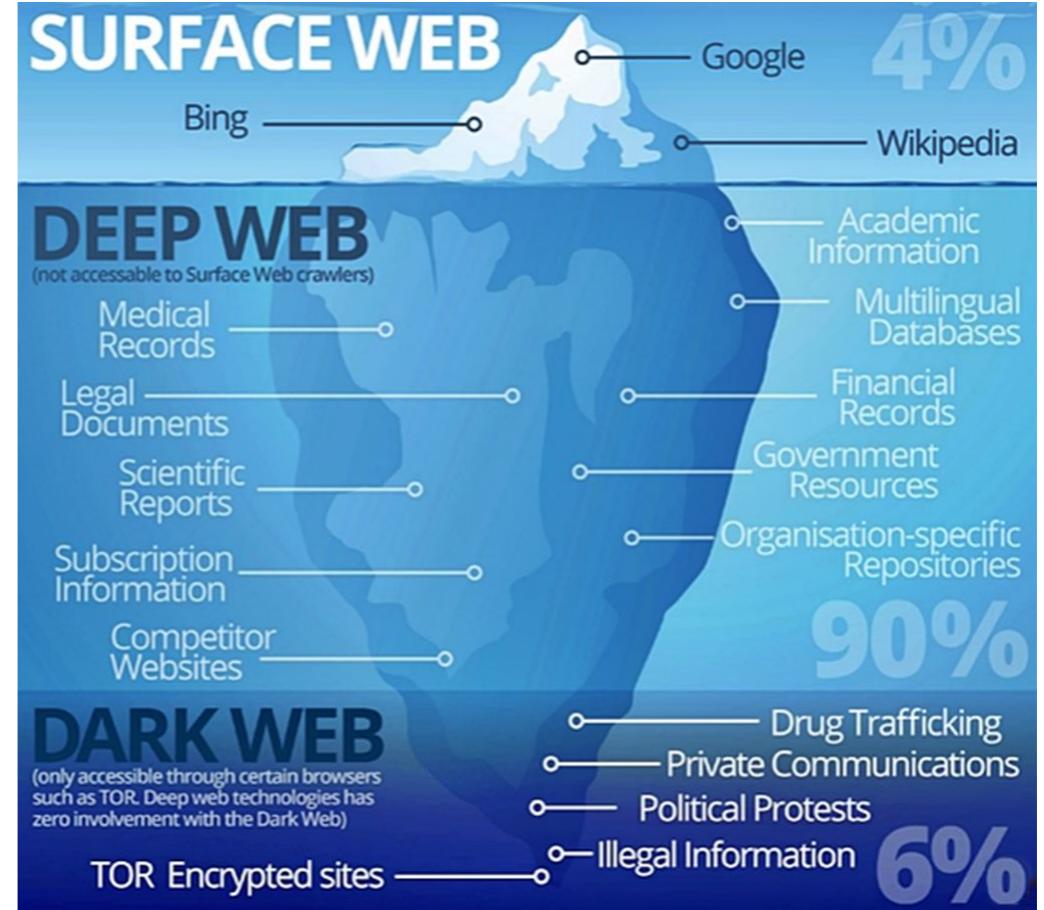
Onion Services

"End-to-End" Anonymity

Aka. "" The Dark Web ""

The traffic never leaves the Tor network

Privacy for the user and the website operator.



example of **misinformation**
about onion services

(they only account for 3% of all tor traffic)

How does it look like?

Version 2: <http://qubesos4rrrrz6n4.onion/>

Version 3: <http://sik5nlgf5qylnnsr57qrbm64zbdx6t4lreyhpon3ychmxmiem7tioad.onion/>

Self Authentication

No need for Certificate Authorites

The URL is the public key

correct URL = correct website

<http://sik5nlgfc5qylnnsr57qrbm64zbdx6t4lreyhpon3ychmxmiem7tioad.onion/>

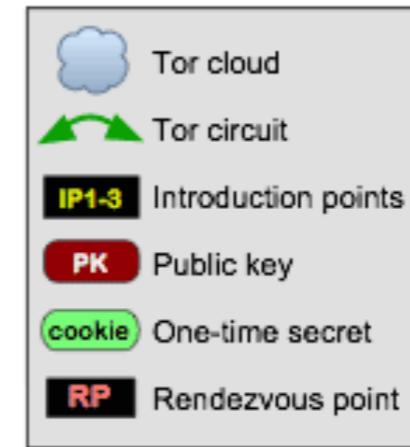
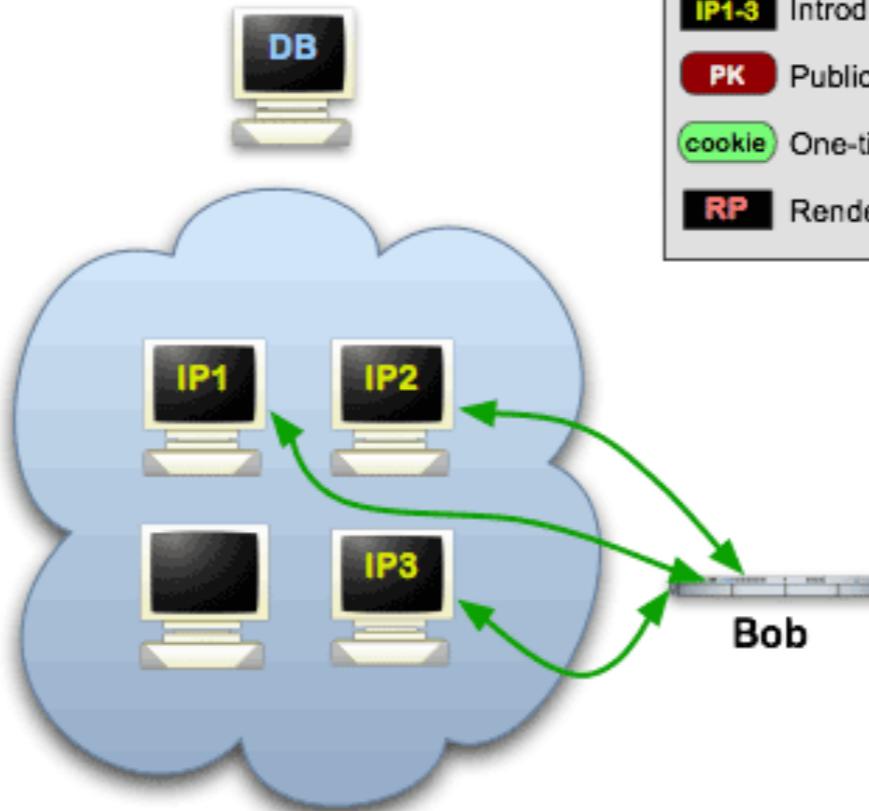


Onion Services: Step 1

Step 1: Bob picks some introduction points and builds circuits to them.



Alice



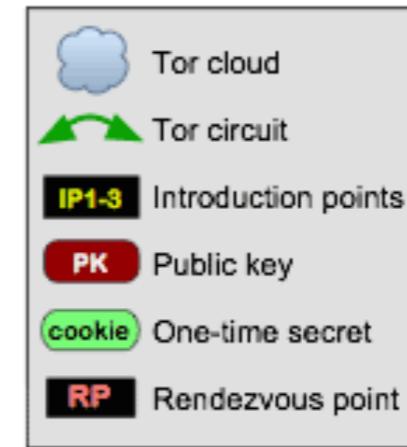
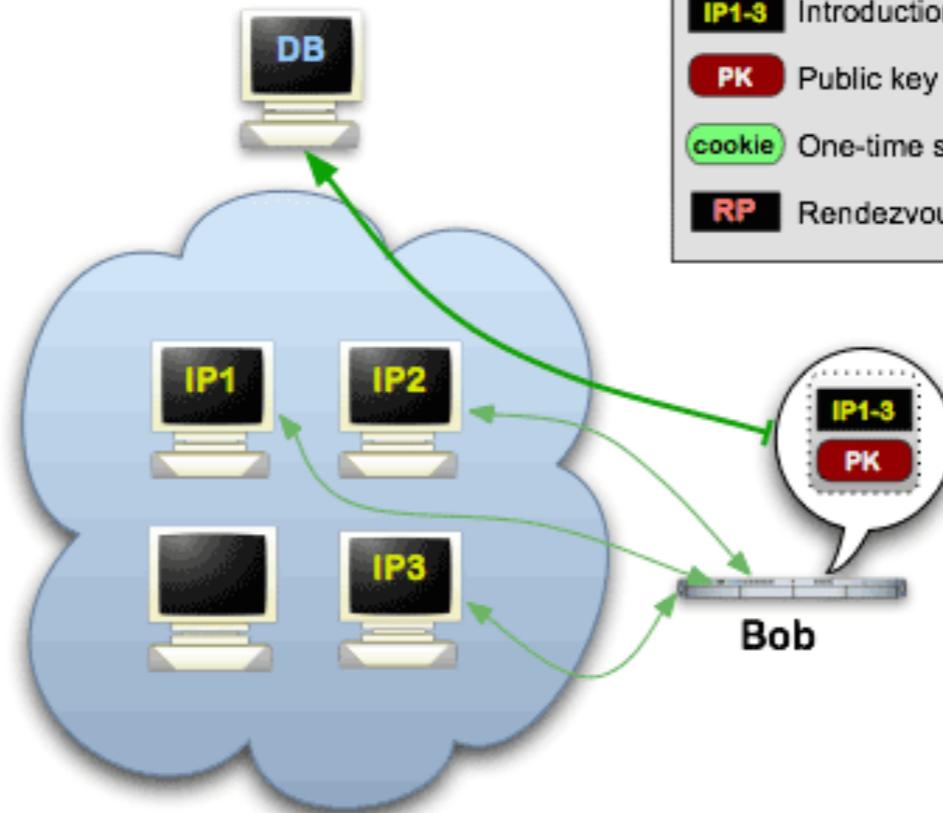


Onion Services: Step 2

Step 2: Bob advertises his service -- XYZ.onion -- at the database.



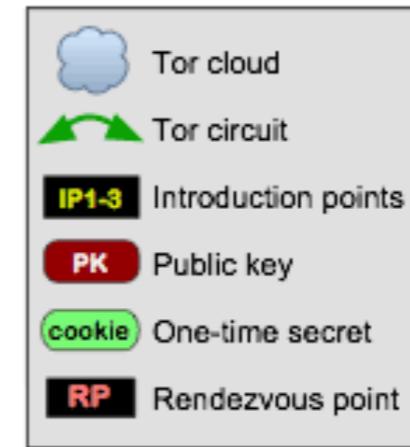
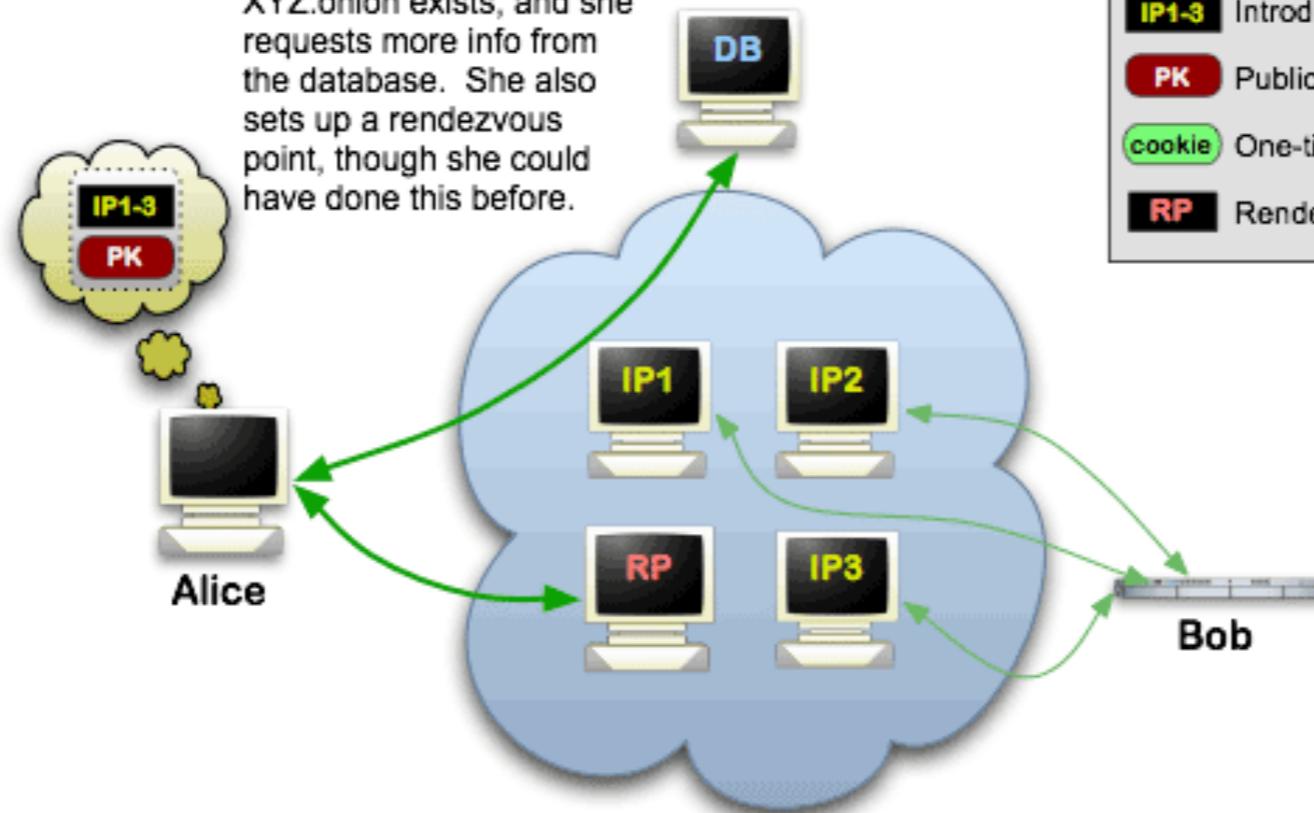
Alice





Onion Services: Step 3

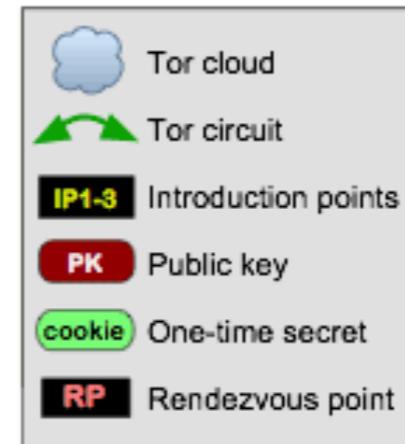
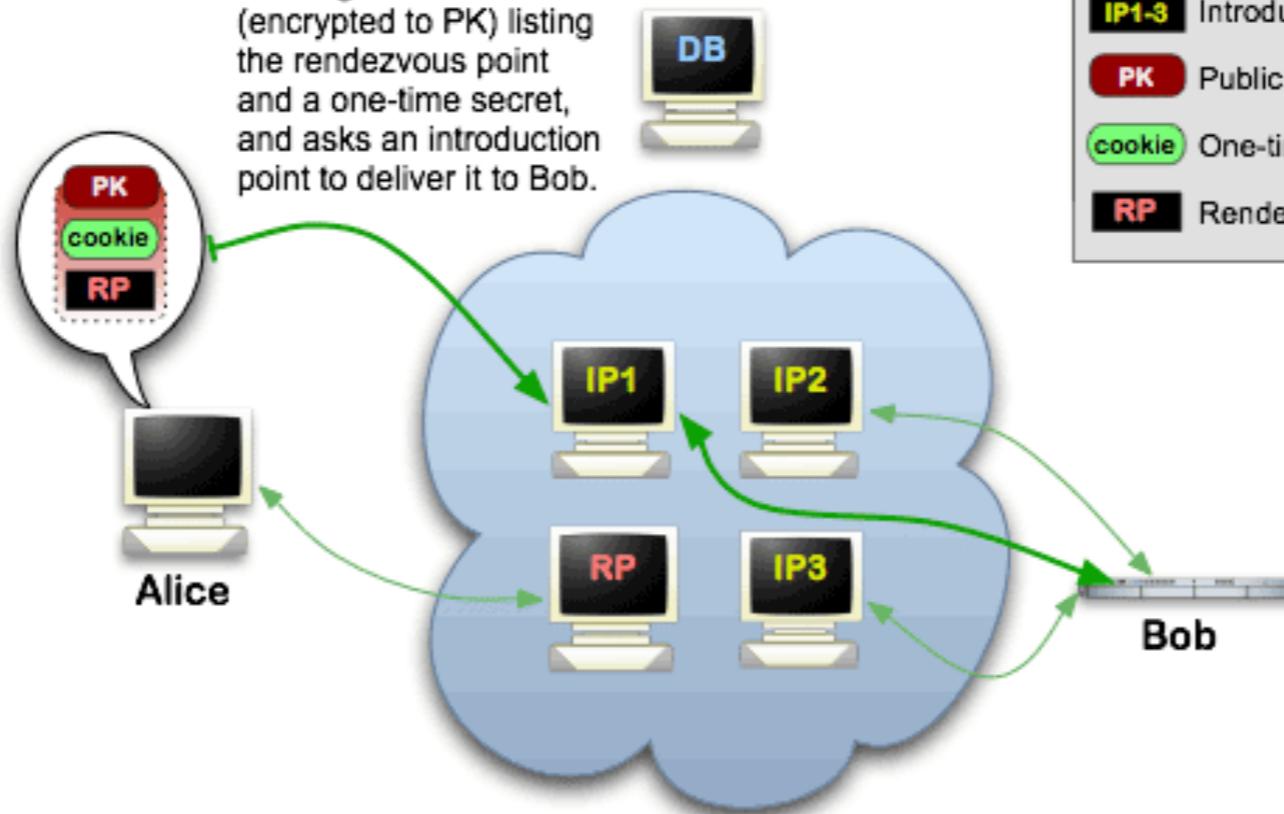
Step 3: Alice hears that XYZ.onion exists, and she requests more info from the database. She also sets up a rendezvous point, though she could have done this before.





Onion Services: Step 4

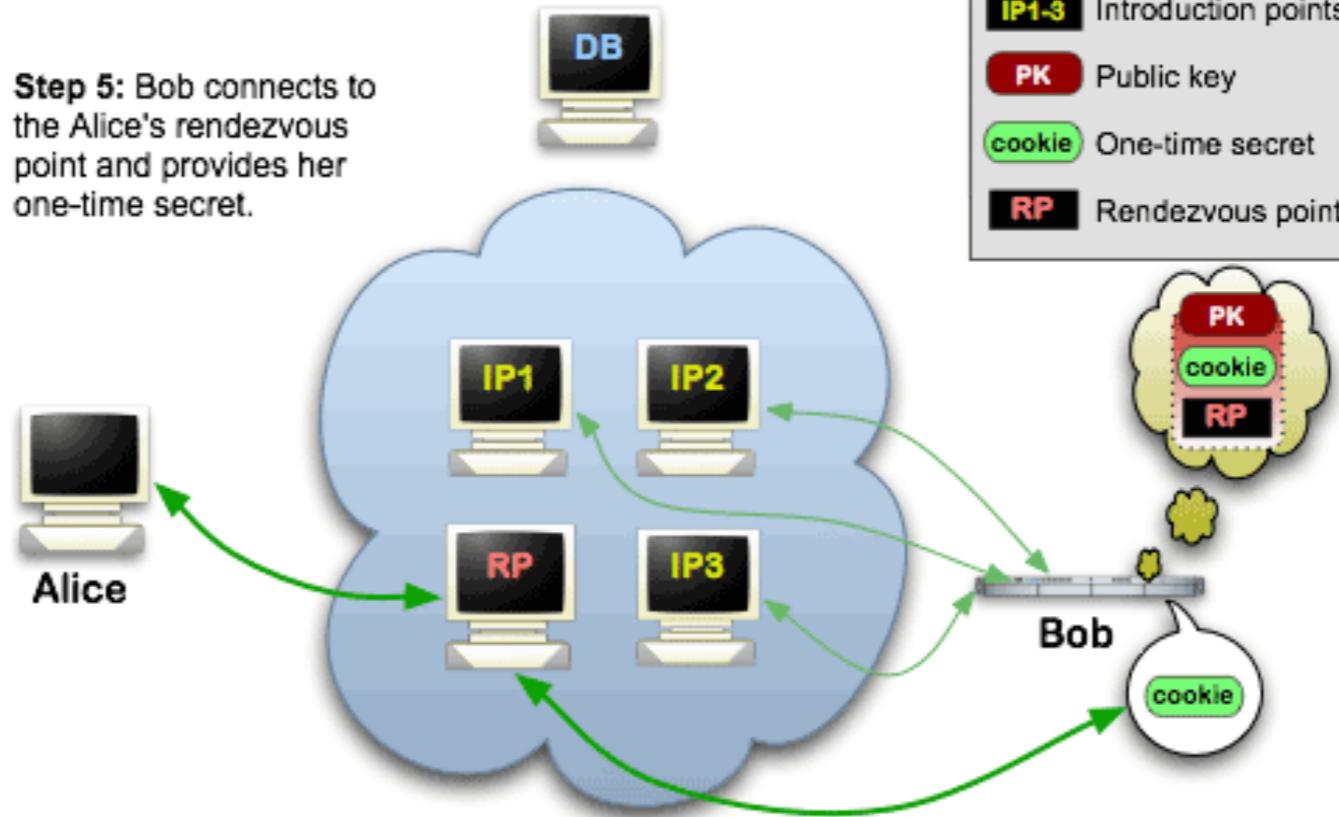
Step 4: Alice writes a message to Bob (encrypted to PK) listing the rendezvous point and a one-time secret, and asks an introduction point to deliver it to Bob.





Onion Services: Step 5

Step 5: Bob connects to the Alice's rendezvous point and provides her one-time secret.



Censorship Resistance

A direct consequence of anonymity

If I don't know who you are or where you go,
I cannot block you access based on that information

Resources

Where you can find more information about how Tor works:

- [A soft introduction to the Tor network written in Spanish](#)
- [Read the Original paper of tor](#)
- Thirteen key design changes since the original 2004 paper: [part one](#), [part two](#), [part three](#).
- [Tor Documentation](#)

Image credits

Copyright of the images to their respective owner. Used for the purpose of illustration

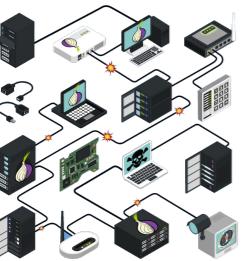
image	credit
	<p>Hard to credit but it seems to come from an article from wired. The image was based on that one, but modified to add all of tor and nsa's logos.</p>
	<p>"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog" The famous cartoon by Peter Steiner.</p>

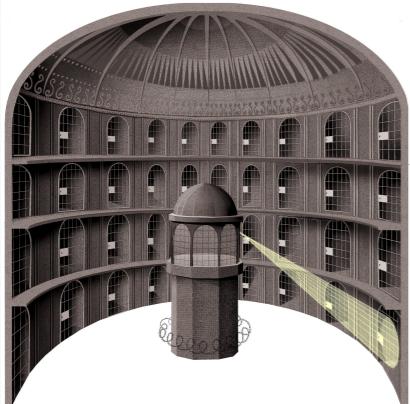
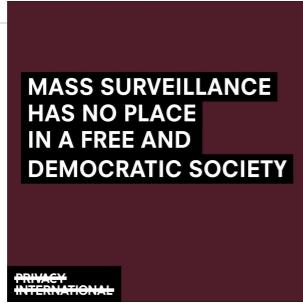
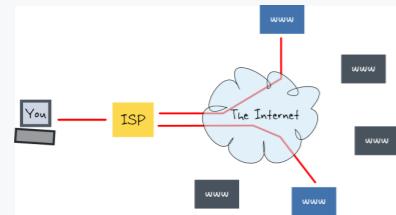
image	credit
 <p data-bbox="254 749 639 811"><i>"Remember when, on the Internet, nobody knew who you were?"</i></p>	<p data-bbox="759 477 2434 626">The 2015 upgrade to the decades-old cartoon made by Kaamran Hafeez and published in The New Yorker on February 23, 2015</p>
	<p data-bbox="759 1010 2207 1159">A very nice illustration of the Panopticon prison concept. Taken from an NYtimes article</p>

image
image

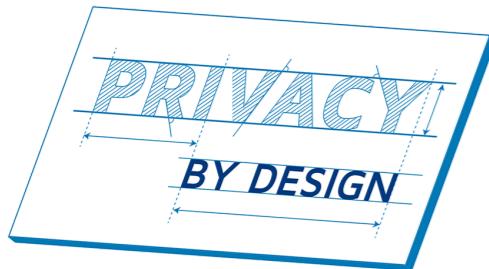


credit
credit

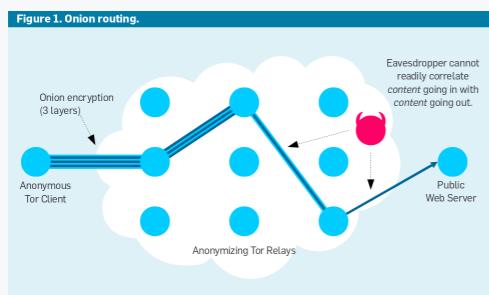
made by [Privacy International](#)



Taken from [this blog](#)

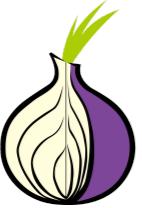


privacy by design logo is from the [Privacy by Design Foundation](#)



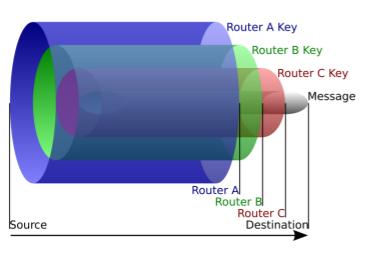
From Brian Ford's article "[Seeking Anonymity in an Internet Panopticon](#)"

image

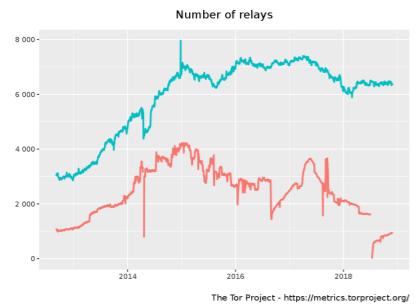


credit

Tor's logo



Wikimedia Commons

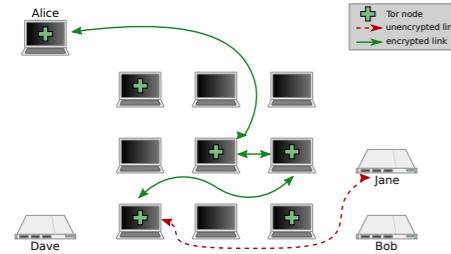


You can find more fancy graphics of on [tor metrics](#)



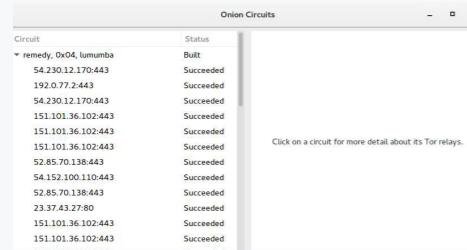
Taken from [this article](#) detailing the consensus mechanism

image
image



credit
credit

more similar diagrams [here](#)



[Onion Circuits](#) is an application for viewing the current open and build tor circuits. It's quite good for new people using tor as they can see all that is going on in the background without it being too technical.

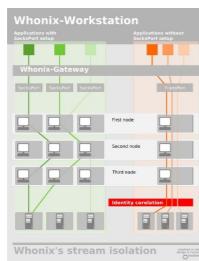


Image of stream isolation of [whonix](#). Taken from their wiki.



Hard to credit, but easy to love.
It seems the oldest version of the image comes from [here](#).