

A black and white photograph of the MIT Great Dome at night. The dome is brightly lit from within, casting a glow on the surrounding trees and the building's facade. The building has classical architectural details like columns and a pedimented portico. A dark rectangular overlay covers the lower half of the image, containing the title and author information.

# Cybersecurity

Abel Sanchez

MIT Campus | Cambridge, MA



The background of the image is a grayscale photograph of a large stack of papers. The edges of the papers create a distinct wavy or undulating pattern across the entire frame.

THE NEW NORMAL

Plit



# Hacking Tradition

*At MIT, a "hacker" is someone who does some sort of interesting and creative work at a high intensity level.*





Morris Worm  
1988

By

Robert  
Tappan  
Morris

# Cyber Security Attacks Price List

- Basic crypter (for inserting rogue code into a benign file): \$10-30
- SOCKS bot (to get around firewalls): \$100
- Hiring a DDoS attack: \$30-70 for a day, \$1,200 for a month
- Email spam: \$10 per one million e-mails
- Expensive email spam (using a customer database): \$50-500 per one million e-mails
- SMS spam: \$3-150 per 100-100,000 messages
- Bots for a botnet: \$200 for 2,000 bots
- DDoS botnet: \$700
- ZeuS source code: \$200-\$500
- Windows rootkit (for installing malicious drivers): \$292
- Hacking a Facebook or Twitter account: \$130
- Hacking a Gmail account: \$162
- Hacking a corporate mailbox: \$500
- Scans of legitimate passports: \$5 each
- Winlocker ransomware: \$10-20
- Unintelligent exploit bundle: \$25
- Intelligent exploit bundle: \$10-3,000
- Traffic: \$7-15 per 1,000 visitors for the most valuable traffic (from the US and EU)

-  Accessories >
-  Electronics >
-  Graphics >
-  Hamradio >
-  Internet >
-  Kali Linux >
-  Office >
-  Programming >
-  Sound & Video >
-  System Tools >
-  Universal Access >
-  Other >

### Top 10 Security Tools

#### Information Gathering

#### Vulnerability Analysis

#### Web Applications

#### Password Attacks

#### Wireless Attacks

#### Exploitation Tools

#### Sniffing/Spoofing

#### Maintaining Access

#### Reverse Engineering

#### Stress Testing

#### Hardware Hacking

#### Forensics

#### Reporting Tools

#### System Services

#### DNS Analysis

#### IDS/IPS Identification

#### Live Host Identification

#### Network Scanners

#### OS Fingerprinting

#### OSINT Analysis

#### Route Analysis

#### Service Fingerprinting

#### SMB Analysis

#### SMTP Analysis

#### SNMP Analysis

#### SSL Analysis

#### Telephony Analysis

#### Traffic Analysis

#### VoIP Analysis

#### VPN Analysis

 braa cisco-auditing-tool cisco-torch copy-router-config merge-router-config nmap onesixtyone snmpcheck zenmap

The quieter you be,



the easier you hear.



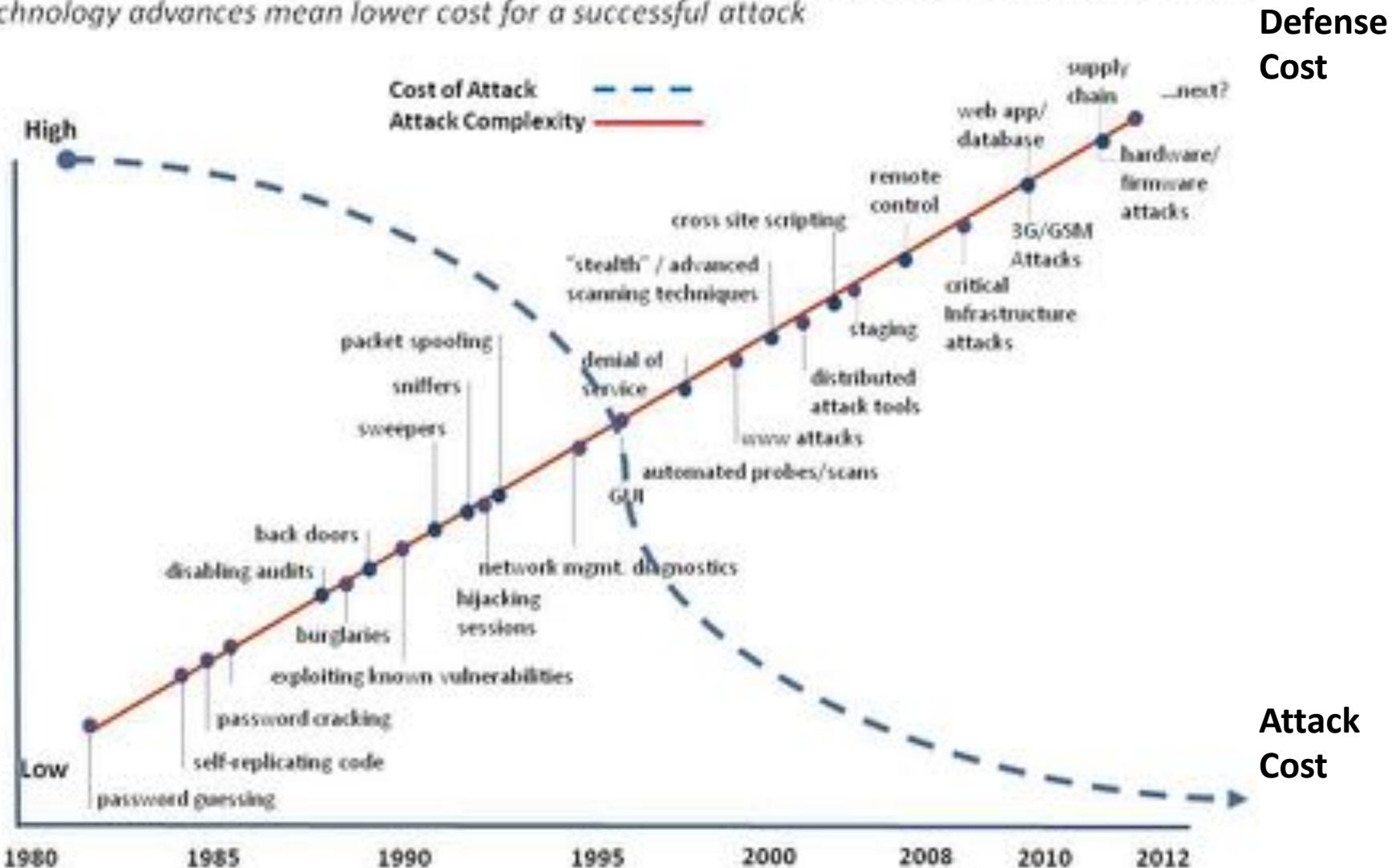




# Diminishing Attack Costs & Increasing Complexity

Increased network complexity & dependence means more attacks succeed with high payoffs

Technology advances mean lower cost for a successful attack



# Why?

- Explosive Growth of Information Technology!
- Not slowing down, accelerating
- Digitalization, automation, intelligence
- *Software Is Eating the World* By Marc Andreessen
- Every business is a technology business

A blurred, grayscale image of a computer keyboard serves as the background for the title. The keys are visible as vertical streaks of light.

# HOW FAST CAN YOU BECOME A PASSWORD HACKER?





# Password Explosion

- 25+ accounts per user
- Reuse spreads vulnerabilities
- I have over 100 passwords
- How many do you have?



# Most Common Passwords

- Top 10 most common passwords:
  - 123456
  - 123456789
  - 1234
  - password
  - 12345
  - 12345678
  - admin
  - 123
  - qwerty
  - 1234567

# Password Character Set

Username:

Account

Password:

\*\*\*\*\*

# 95 Character Set

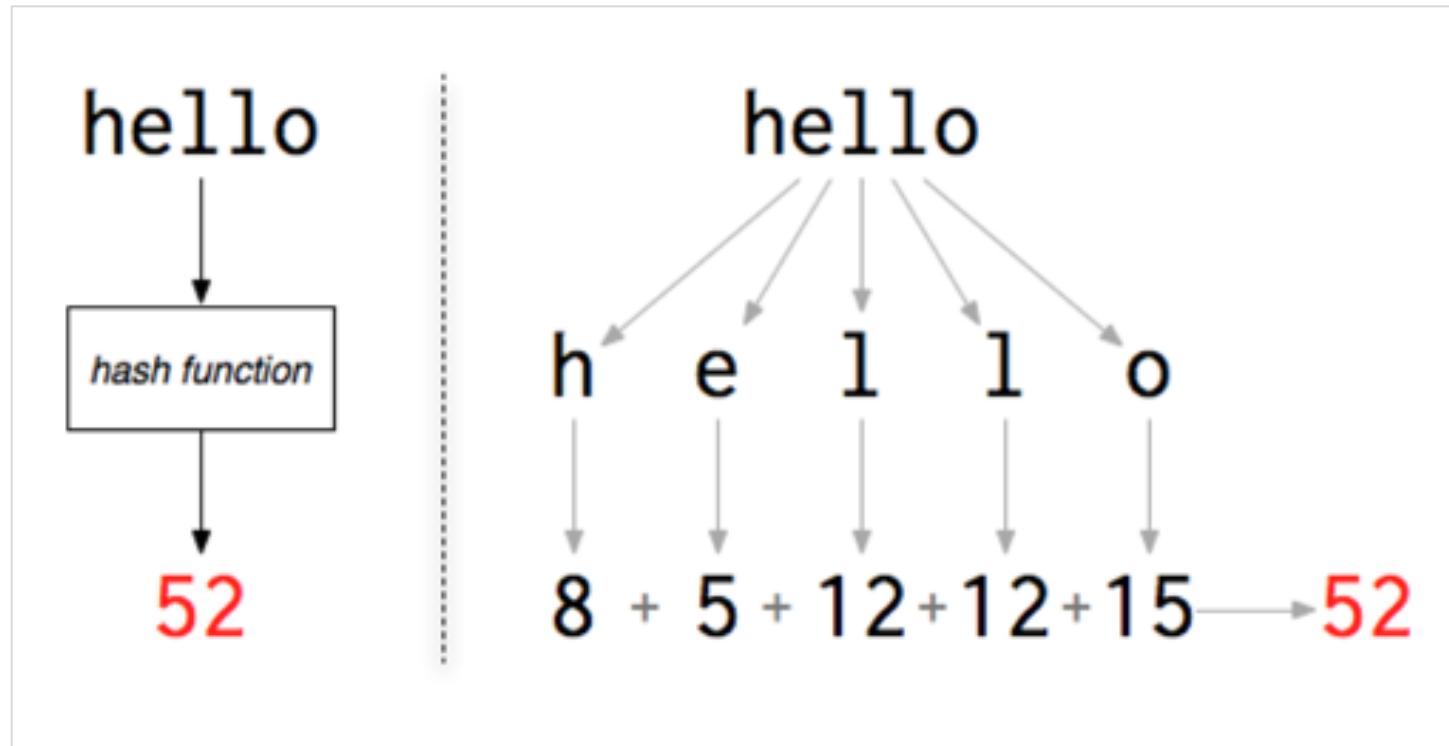
- The "95" comes from the standard 95 characters on a US keyboard. 26 upper, 26 lower, 10 digit, 33 special chars.

```
var charSet = ['a','b','c','d','e',
  'f','g','h','i','j',
  'k','l','m','n','o',
  'p','q','r','s','t',
  'u','v','w','x','y','z',
  'A','B','C','D','E',
  'F','G','H','I','J',
  'K','L','M','N','O',
  'P','Q','R','S','T',
  'U','V','W','X','Y','Z',
  '0','1','2','3','4',
  '5','6','7','8','9',
  '~','!','@','#',
  '$','%','^','&','*',
  '(',')', '+','-',
  '=','{','}', '|','[',
  ']'','`',';','`','`',
  '<','>','?','`','`',
  `','`];
};
```

# Possible Passwords

- $95^1 = 95$
- $95^2 = 9025$
- $95^3 = 857375$
- $95^4 = 81450625$
- $95^5 = 7737809375$
- $95^6 = 735091890625$
- $95^7 = 69833729609375$
- $95^8 = 6634204312890625$

# Hashing



[http://www.filosophy.org/post/8/what\\_is\\_a\\_password\\_anyway/](http://www.filosophy.org/post/8/what_is_a_password_anyway/)

# MD5 Hash

pi



72ab8af56bddab33b269c5964b26620a

# Goal

- Find a list of passwords to crack
- Find a good password cracker
- Crack over 5% of passwords

# Find Passwords to Crack

- Lots of lists online
- Dedicated forums to cracking passwords
- Choose a friendly forum
- Choose MD5-hashed passwords
- Choose a list with 7,000 passwords

# With 25 GPUs

- 350 billion guess/sec NTLM
- $95^8$  combinations in just 5.5 hours
- You can brute force every possible eight-character password containing upper- and lower-case letters, digits, and symbols

$$95^8 = 6634204312890625$$

$$= 6,634,204,312,890,625 / 350,000,000,000$$

$$= 18,955 \text{ secs} = 316 \text{ mins} = 5.27 \text{ hours}$$

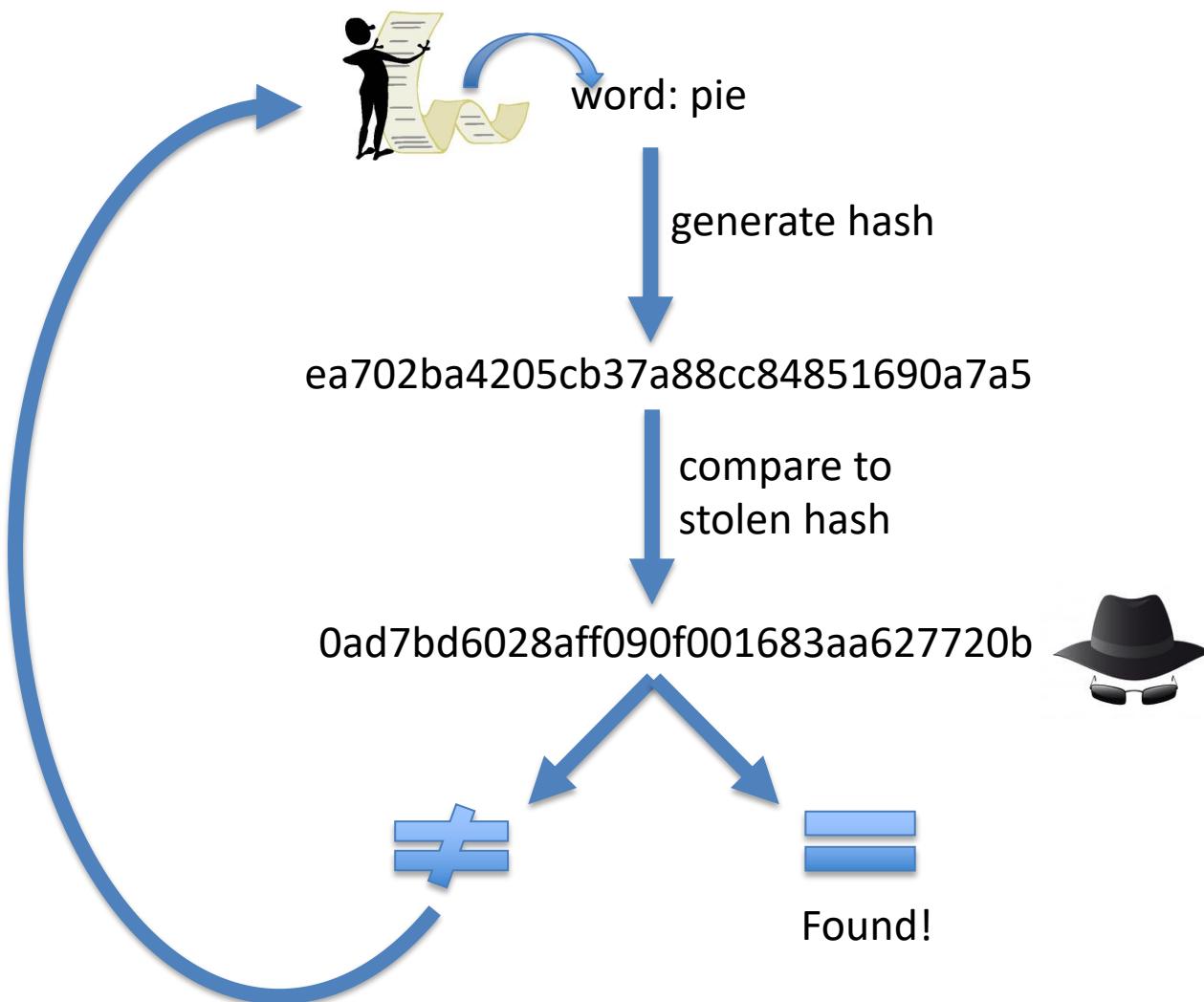
# Brute Force is the Last Resort



# Wordlists: 2009 Change in Technique

- In 2009, RockYou.com exposed 32 million plaintext passwords which came to 14.3 million once duplicates were removed.
- Marked marked a shift in approach

# Wordlist Attack



# Wordlists: LinkedIn Example Crack

- LinkedIn:
  - 6.5 million LinkedIn password SHA1 hashes
  - 20% cracked in 30 seconds
  - 30% cracked in 2 hours
  - 64% in one day
  - 90% cracked in 6 days
- Tools
  - 500-million-strong word list
  - 4 AMD Radeon HD6990 graphics cards (3072x4)
  - 15.5 billion guesses/sec
  - ≈\$5K

# Bank of Wordlists is Growing

- Each year:
  - millions passwords published online
- Billions real-world passwords in the wild
- Growing community sharing & cracking
- <http://pastebin.com/>
- <https://haveibeenpwned.com/Passwords>

357

pwned websites

7,839,042,160

pwned accounts

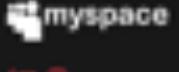
92,712

pastes

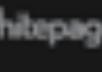
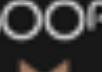
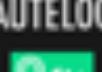
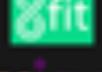
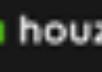
113,252,553

paste accounts

## Largest breaches

	772,904,991	<a href="#">Collection #1 accounts</a>
	763,117,241	<a href="#">Verifications.io accounts</a>
	711,477,622	<a href="#">Onliner Spambot accounts</a>
	593,427,119	<a href="#">Exploit.In accounts</a>
	457,962,538	<a href="#">Anti Public Combo List accounts</a>
	393,430,309	<a href="#">River City Media Spam List accounts</a>
	359,420,698	<a href="#">MySpace accounts</a>
	234,842,089	<a href="#">NetEase accounts</a>
	164,611,595	<a href="#">LinkedIn accounts</a>
	161,749,950	<a href="#">Dubsmash accounts</a>

## Recently added breaches

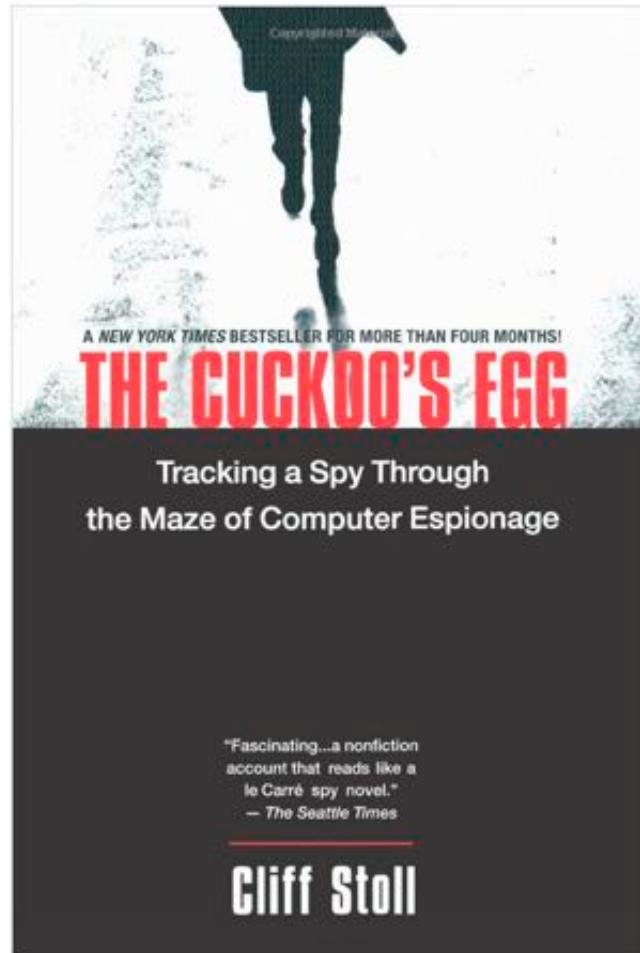
	52,623	<a href="#">Demon Forums accounts</a>
	871,190	<a href="#">Everybody Edits accounts</a>
	3,073,409	<a href="#">Intelimost accounts</a>
	11,657,763	<a href="#">Whitepages accounts</a>
	14,867,999	<a href="#">500px accounts</a>
	3,830,916	<a href="#">Bookmate accounts</a>
	28,510,459	<a href="#">HauteLook accounts</a>
	15,025,407	<a href="#">8fit accounts</a>
	17,204,697	<a href="#">Ixigo accounts</a>
	48,881,308	<a href="#">Houzz accounts</a>

# Big Data: Wordlists Patterns

- Patterns:
  - Majority of capital letters at the beginning of a password
  - Most numbers and punctuation show up at the end
  - First names followed by years, such as John1980 or Peter1965
  - Special characters at end or beginning
  - Special characters taking place of similar looking letters, "princess" become "prince\$\$"
  - Mirroring words, so "book" becomes "bookkoob" and "password" becomes "passworddrowssap."
  - Capital followed by 5 letter word, followed by 1-3 numbers



# History



*Book: The Cuckoo's Egg, Cliff Stoll*

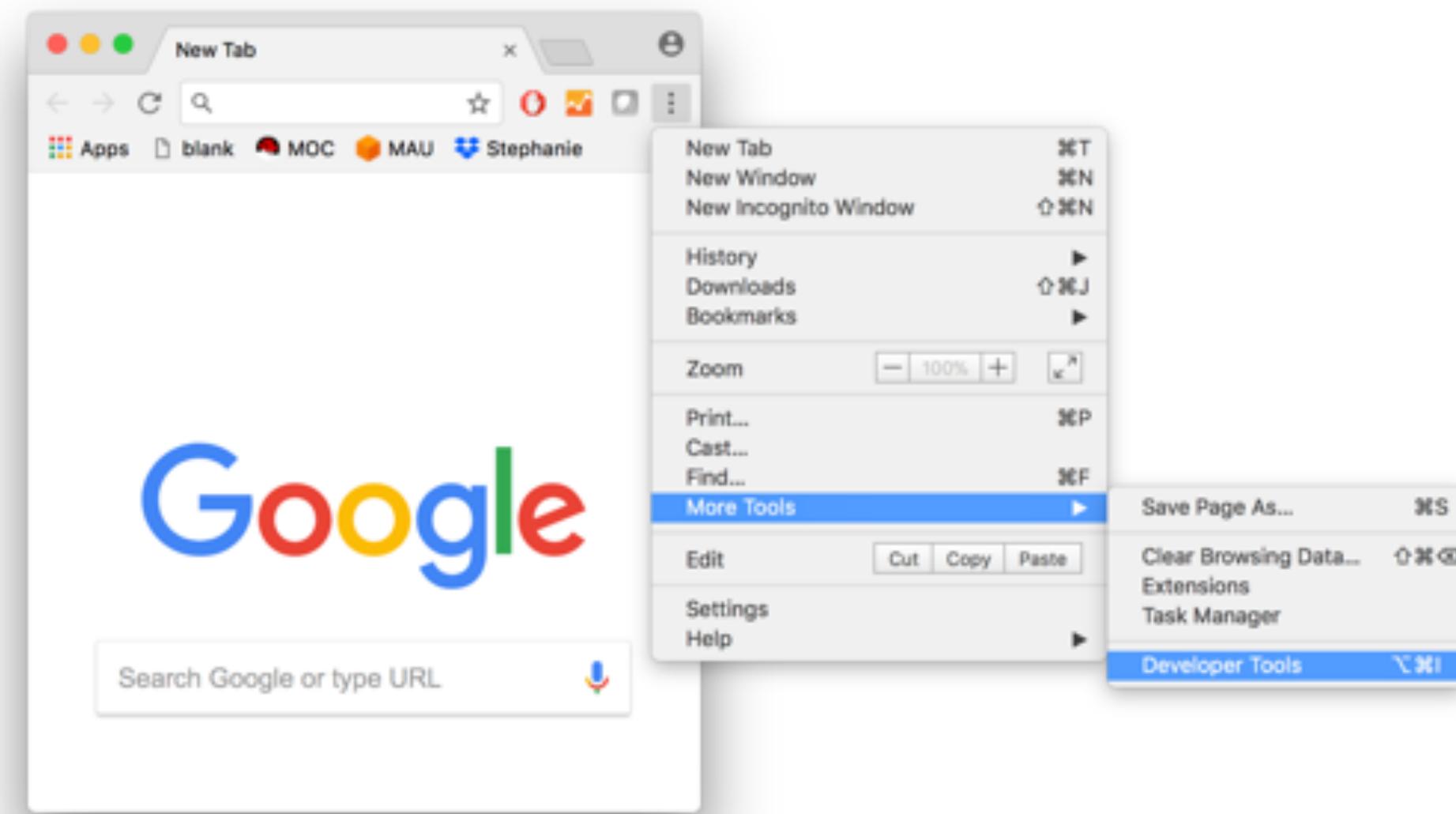
*Documentary: The KGB, the Computer, and Me, NOVA*

# Password Advice

- Password Managers
- Don't reuse passwords
- Multiple factors
- Biometrics on the way

# BROWSER PRIVACY

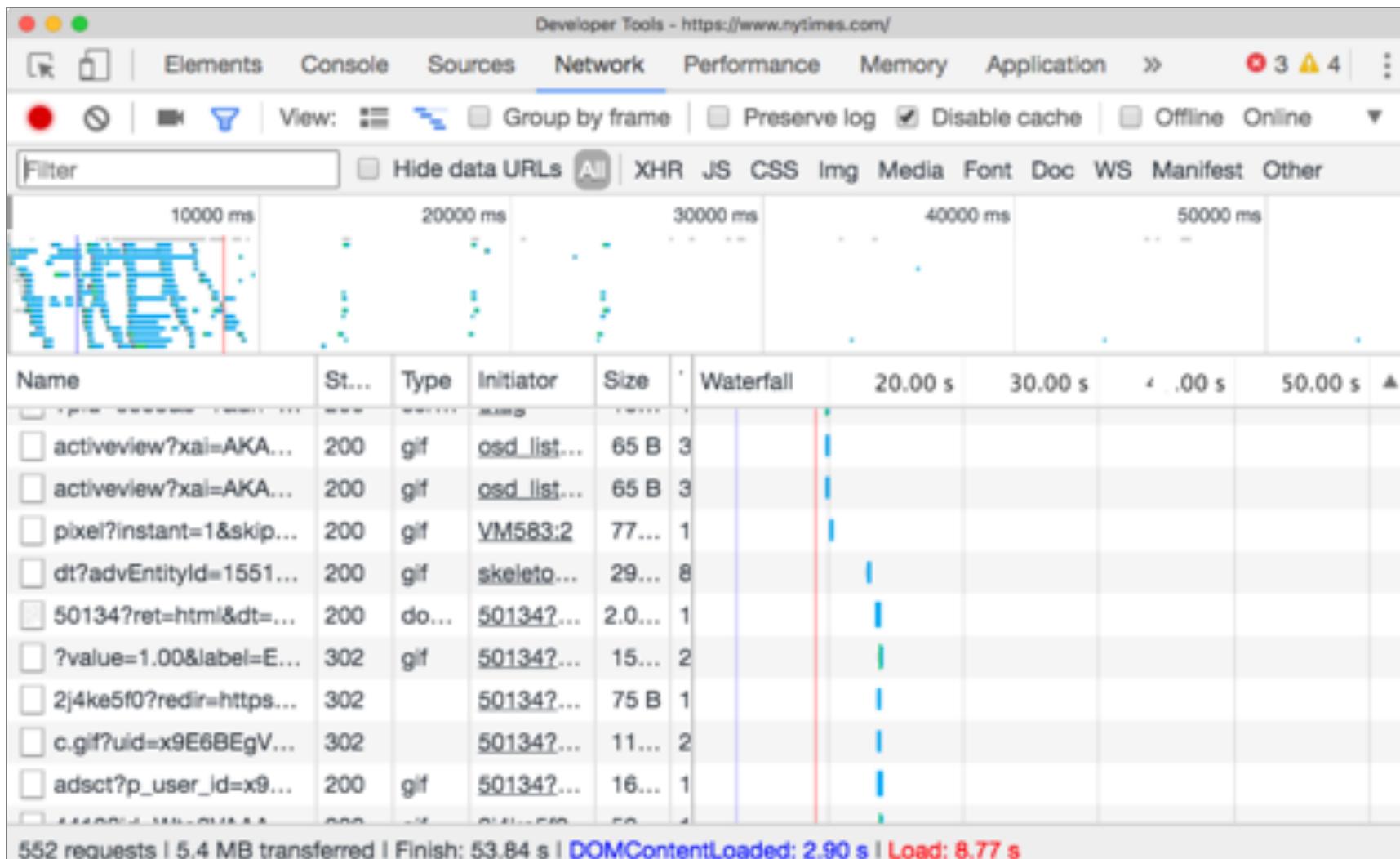




# Implications of Navigating to a URL

- Sample
  - <http://www.nyt.com>

# Navigating to the New York Times



552 requests to other addresses by navigating to single page!

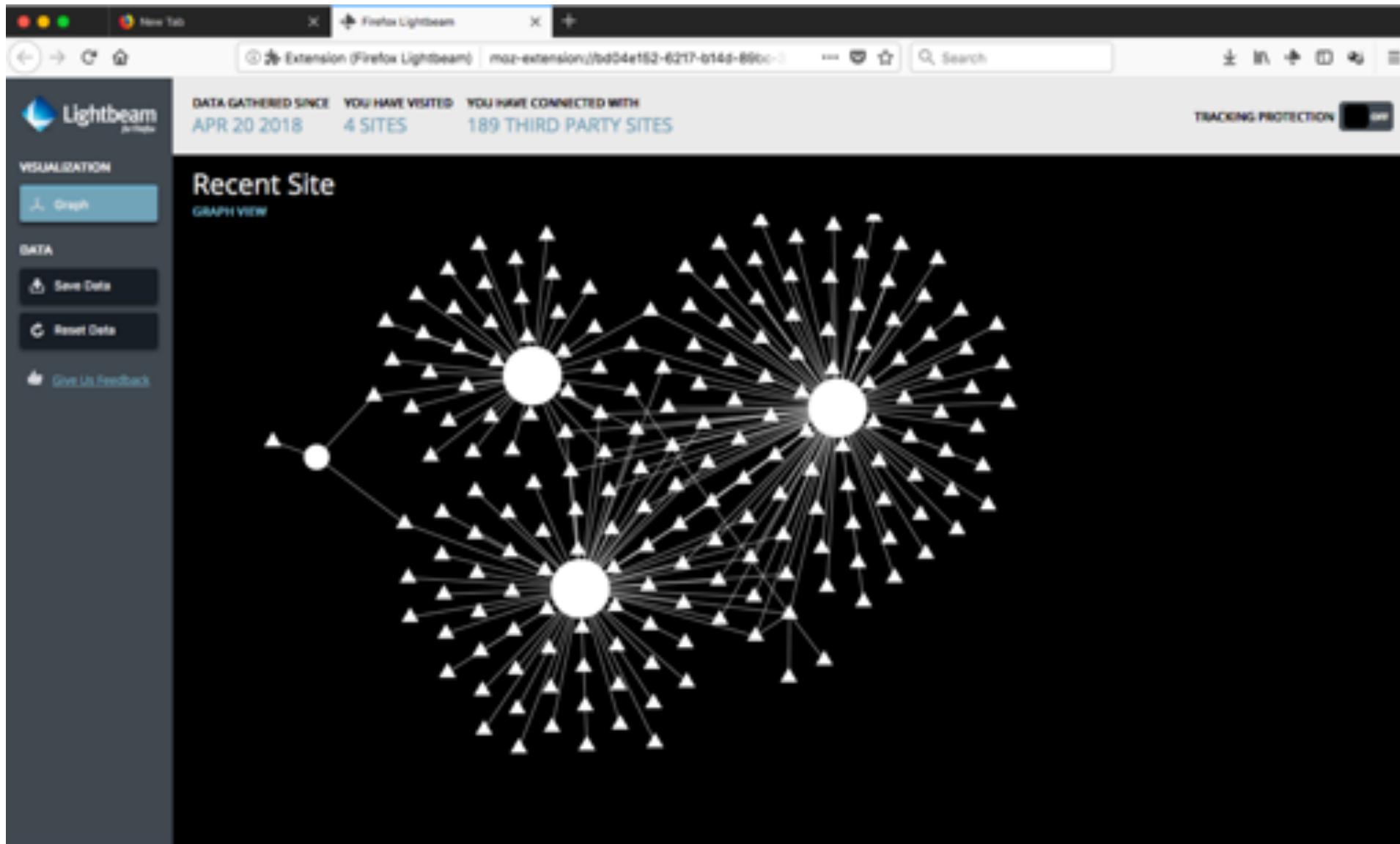
# Let's navigate to three sites





**Lightbeam**  
*for Firefox*

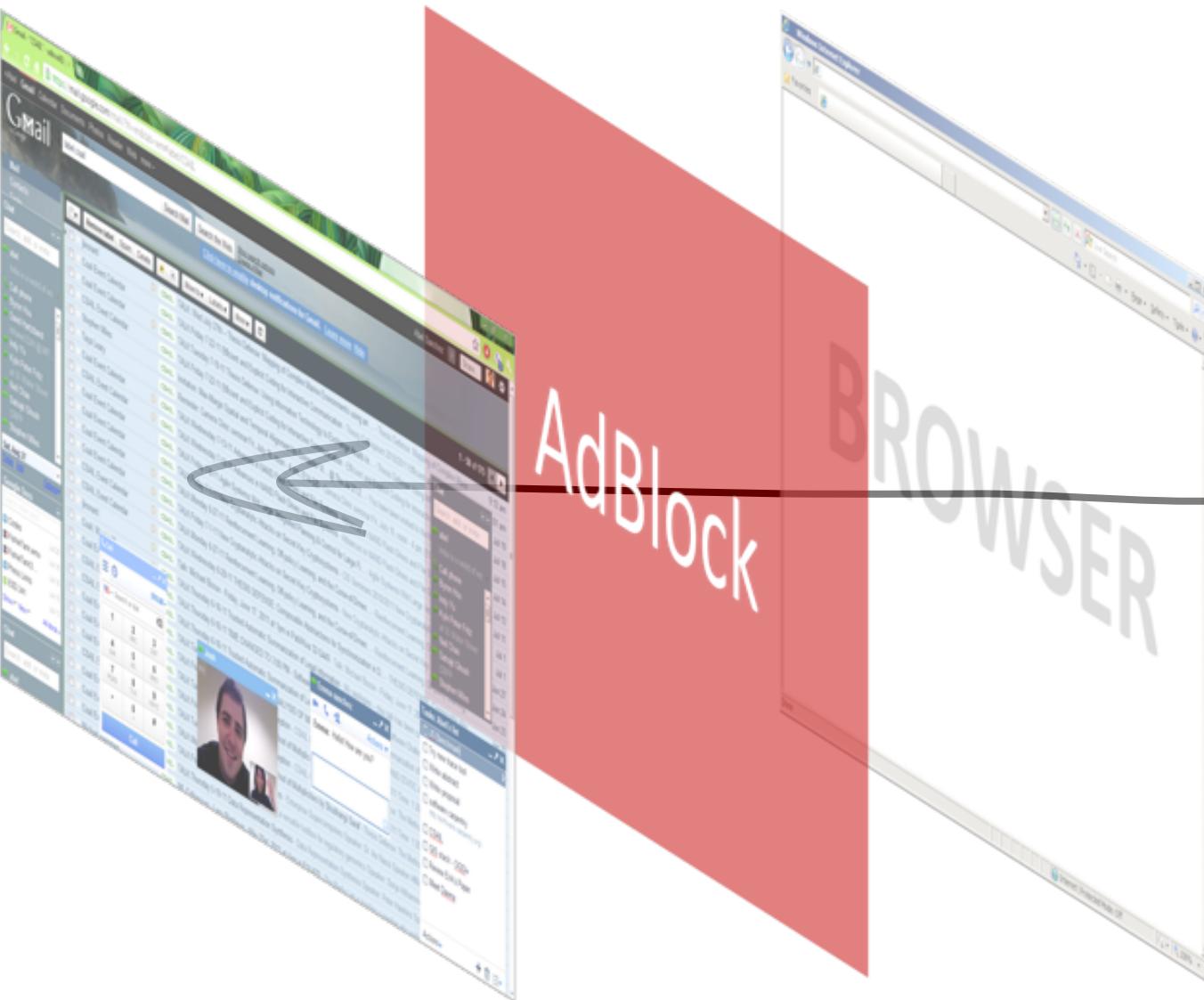
# Information Sharing



# Browser

- Largest attack platform
- Over 20M LOCs
- Zero-days like OS
- You could teach a CS curriculum on the browser

# Plugins



# AdBlock

- *The Wall Street Journal* reported that paying customers include Google, Microsoft, and Taboola.

# Avoid

- Free Wi-Fi in:
  - Hotels
  - Airports
  - Cafes
  - Airplanes
- If you use it, avoid
  - Entering passwords
  - Entering PII, PHI

# VPNs

- Is the VPN using up-to-date protocols?
- Reputation/history of company, people behind it?
- Terms of service?
- Protection, what is not covered?
- Privacy policy?

# MIT EXPERIMENT





Connected  
12 Hours  
No users

Collected Attack Data

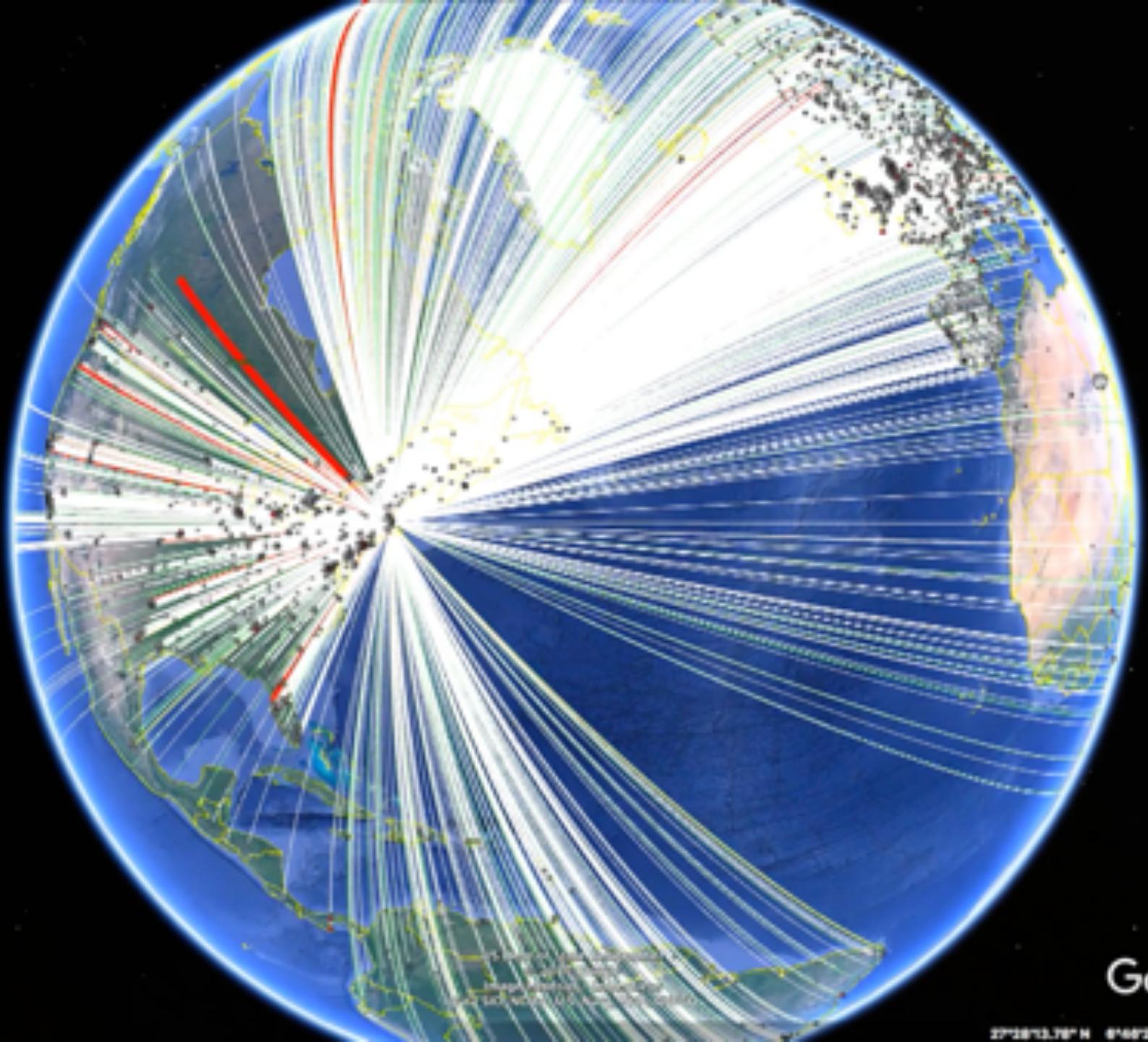
# Demo ...

- →←↑↓, r



U.S. Dept. of State Geographer  
© 2017 Google  
Image Courtesy: Esri  
Data: USGS, NOAA, USGS, NIMA, GERC

Google Earth



Google Earth

27°28'13.78" N 81°49'23.82" E 10m air 6557.50 m

Your Guide

A black and white photograph showing a large stack of newspapers. The newspapers are slightly blurred, creating a sense of depth. In the lower-left foreground, the words "FAKE NEWS" are printed in a large, bold, white sans-serif font.

FAKE NEWS

MIT



Protecting Election Integrity



Fighting Fake News



Data Privacy

# A Facebook War: Libyans Battle on the Streets and on Screens





Facebook



Cambridge  
Analytica

Facebook



# The New York Times

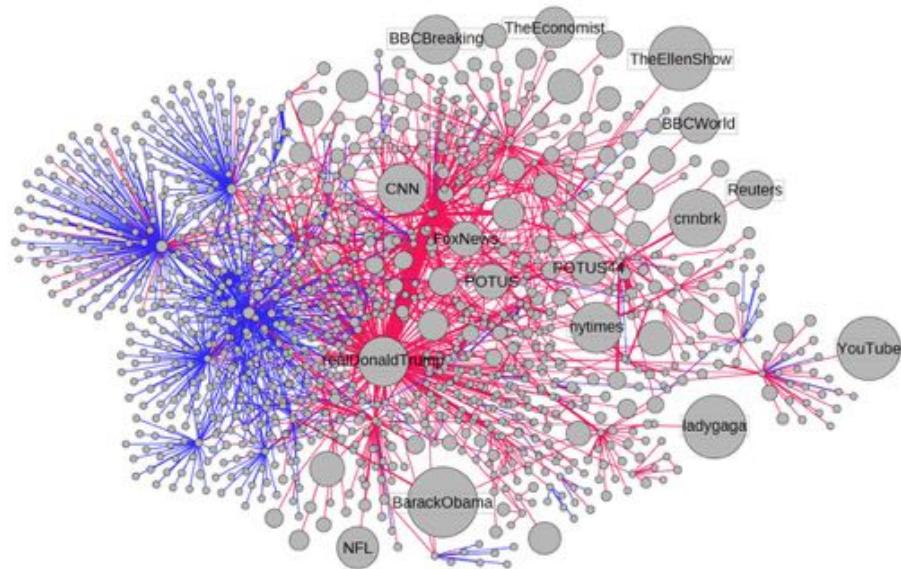


# Russian Hacking and Influence in the U.S. Election



Complete coverage of Russia's campaign to disrupt the 2016 presidential election.

# Study: It only takes a few seconds for bots to spread misinformation



*false stories travel "farther, faster, deeper, and more broadly than the truth in all categories of information ... a false story only needs roughly 10 hours to reach 1,500 users on Twitter, compared to 60 hours for a true story.*

*"No matter how you slice it, falsity wins out,"*

*They examined 14 million messages shared on Twitter between May 2016 and May 2017, spanning the presidential primaries and Trump's inauguration. And they found it took just six percent of Twitter accounts identified as bots to spread 31 percent of what they term "low-credibility" information on the social network. The bots managed this feat in just two to 10 seconds*

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2018/11/study-it-only-takes-a-few-seconds-for-bots-to-spread-misinformation/>



# Real-time Facial Reenactment



Live capture using a commodity webcam



# FINDING TALENT



# Too Few Professionals

**2 MILLION:**

GLOBAL SHORTAGE  
OF CYBERSECURITY  
**PROFESSIONALS**  
BY 2019<sup>1</sup>

**3X**

RATE OF  
CYBERSECURITY JOB  
GROWTH VS. IT JOBS  
OVERALL, 2010-14<sup>8</sup>

**84%**

ORGANIZATIONS BELIEVE  
HALF OR FEWER OF  
APPLICANTS FOR **OPEN  
SECURITY JOBS ARE  
QUALIFIED**<sup>2</sup>

**53%**



OF ORGANIZATIONS  
EXPERIENCE DELAYS  
AS LONG AS **6 MONTHS**  
**TO FIND QUALIFIED**  
SECURITY CANDIDATES<sup>10</sup>

**77%**

OF WOMEN

SAID THAT NO HIGH  
SCHOOL TEACHER OR  
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR  
MENTIONED CYBERSECURITY  
AS CAREER.  
FOR MEN, IT IS 67%.<sup>11</sup>

**89%**



OF U.S.  
CONSUMERS BELIEVE  
IT IS IMPORTANT FOR  
ORGANIZATIONS TO  
**HAVE CYBERSECURITY-**  
**CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES.**<sup>12,13</sup>

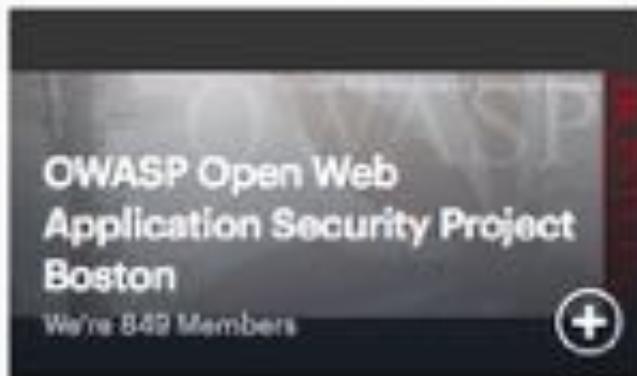
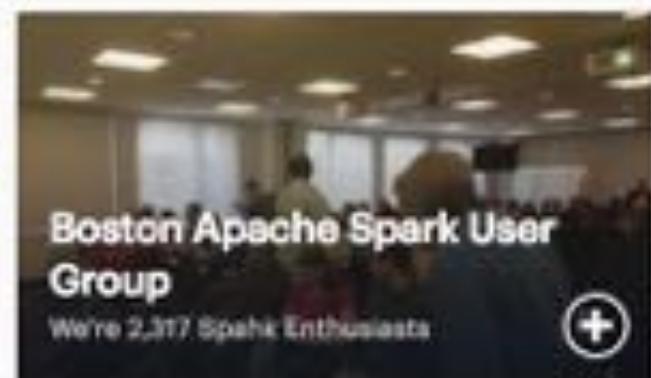
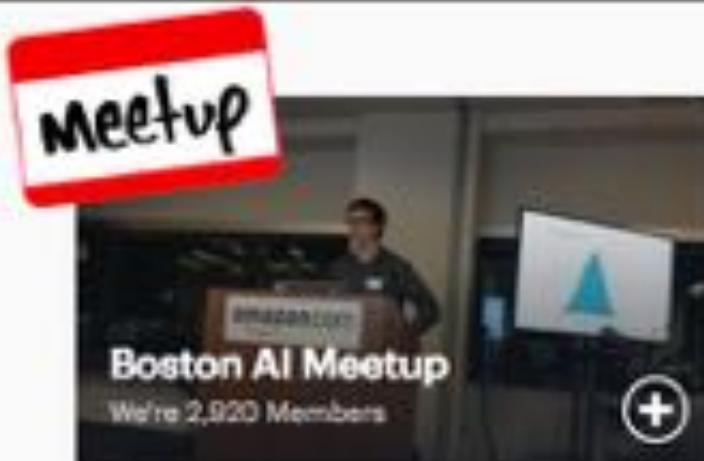
# Build A Pipeline

- Strong ties with top talent sources
  - MIT and Peers
- Start small
  - Build from there

# Non-traditional Sources

- Open source community – Github
- Hackathons
  - Last MIT hackathon had 500 people
  - Great majority not from MIT
- Meetups
- Bootcamps
  - 16 weeks, 2017 output approached 50% of all accredited colleges in Computer Science
- Nanodegrees

Sort by Best match

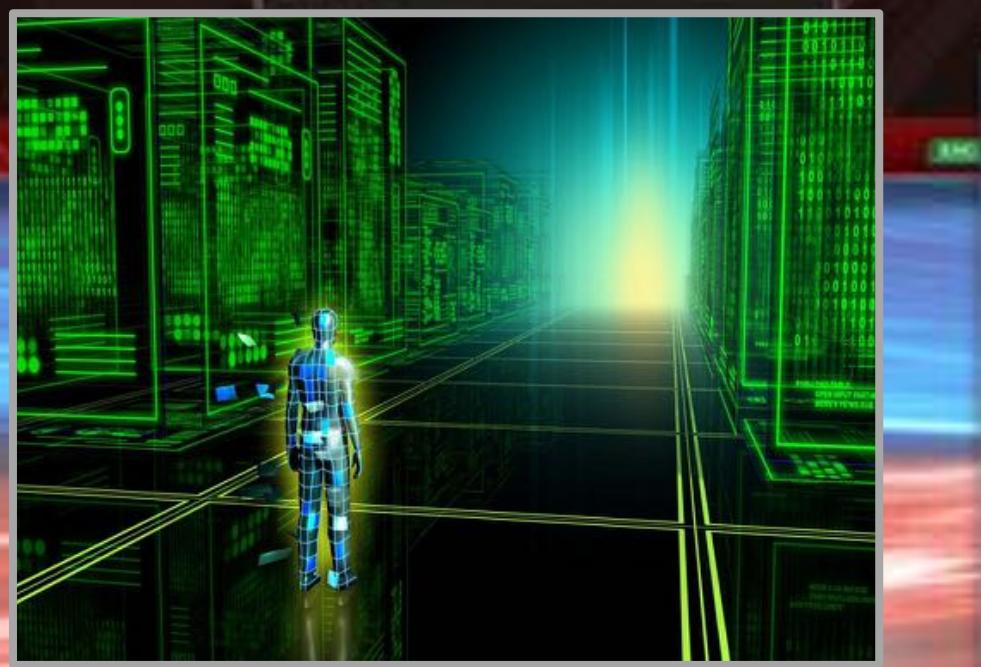


# Lead the Community

- Contribute to community code bases
- Speak at community events
- Engage, participate
- Be recognized as a thought leader
- Run/sponsor hackathons

# Gamulation: gamification + simulation

- Puts learner right in the middle of a fun
- Engaging story-line and environment
- Compete with other learners
- Perform the skills and actions you would in real life
- Red/Blue team training

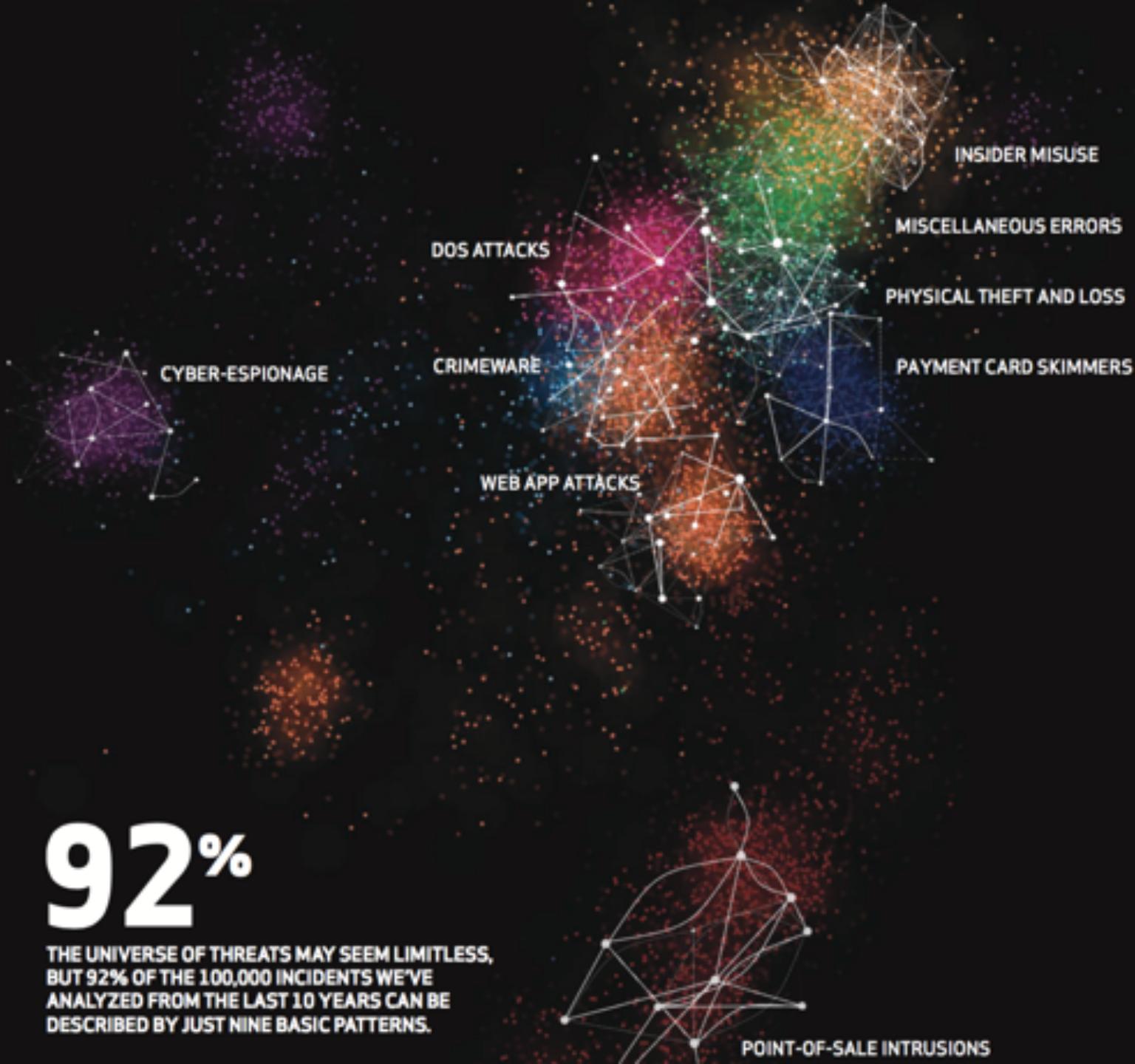


# PATTERNS

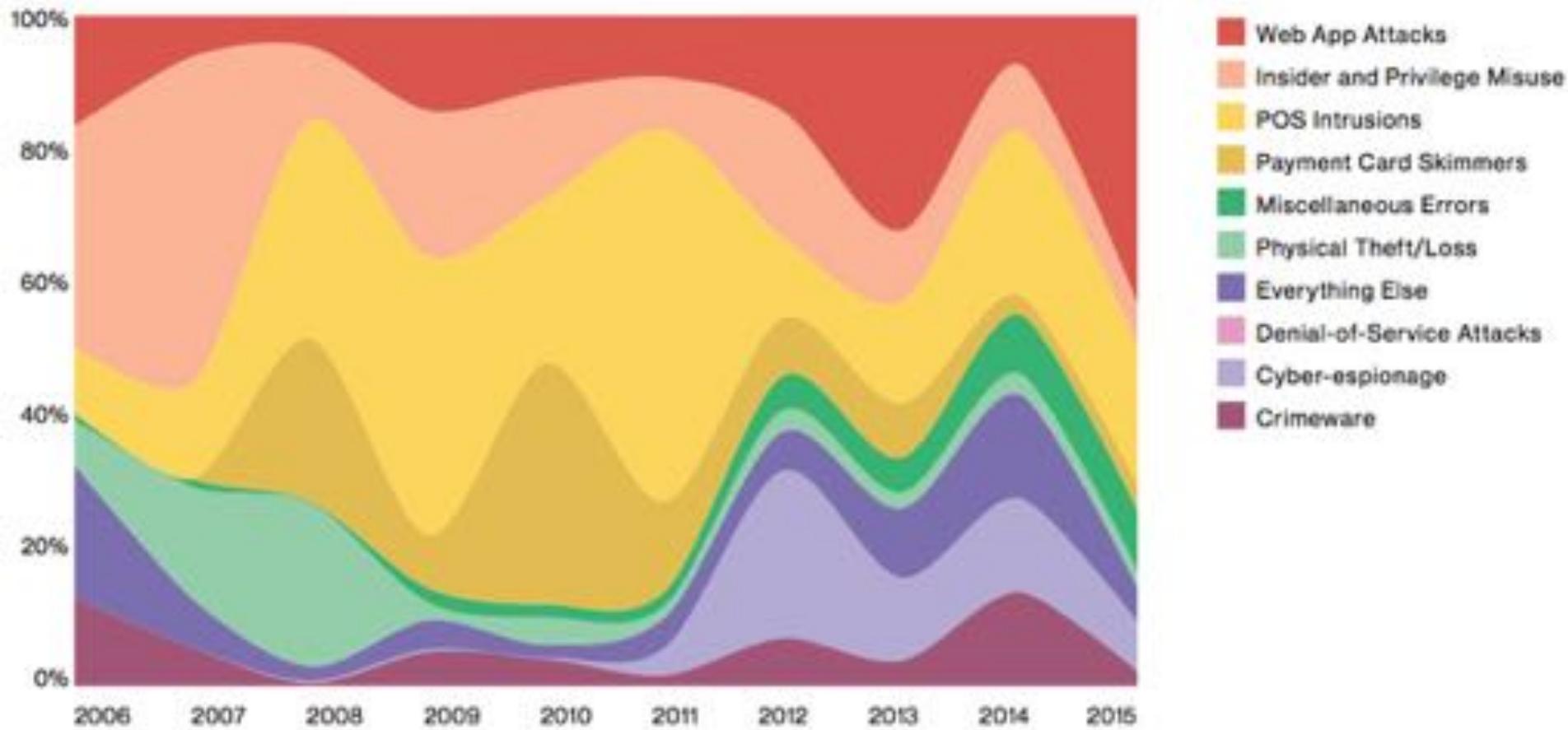


# 92%

THE UNIVERSE OF THREATS MAY SEEM LIMITLESS,  
BUT 92% OF THE 100,000 INCIDENTS WE'VE  
ANALYZED FROM THE LAST 10 YEARS CAN BE  
DESCRIBED BY JUST NINE BASIC PATTERNS.



# Breaches over time



# Patterns by industry

Crimeware	Cyber-espionage	Denial of Service	Everything Else	Stolen Assets	Misc. Errors	Card Skimmers	Point of Sale	Privilege Misuse	Web Apps	Incident patterns by industry minimum 25 incidents (only confirmed data breaches)
				1%	<1%	1%	<1%	95%	1%	Accommodation (72), n=282
	7%			17%	17%	27%		3%	30%	Educational (61), n=29
				3%			47%		50%	Entertainment (71), n=38
1%	<1%	<1%	2%	<1%	2%	9%		4%	82%	Finance (52), n=795
3%	3%			11%	19%	22%		7%	32%	Healthcare (62), n=115
1%	3%			4%		25%		1%	11%	Information (51), n=194
3%	47%			3%				3%	24%	Manufacturing (31-33), n=37
4%	19%			25%	4%	15%		21%	13%	Professional (54), n=53
12%	16%			4%	9%	37%		13%	9%	Public (92), n=193
1%	1%			4%		1%	3%	64%	2%	Retail (44-45), n=182

# Phishing

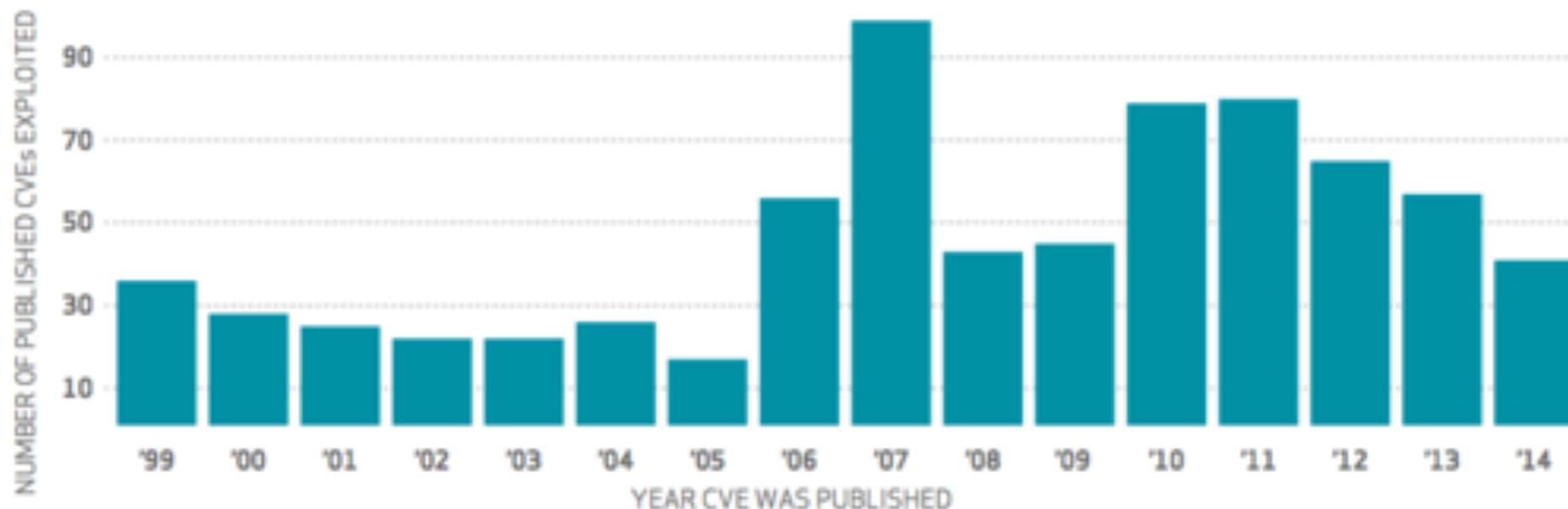
2015		2016	
Clicked	23%	Clicked	30%
Opened	11%	Opened	12%

# Patching is a problem

**99.9%**

OF THE EXPLOITED  
VULNERABILITIES  
WERE COMPROMISED  
MORE THAN A YEAR  
AFTER THE CVE  
WAS PUBLISHED.

*About half of the CVEs  
exploited in 2014 went  
from publish to pwn in  
less than a month.*



## Basic CIS Controls

- 1 Inventory and Control of Hardware Assets
- 2 Inventory and Control of Software Assets
- 3 Continuous Vulnerability Management
- 4 Controlled Use of Administrative Privileges
- 5 Secure Configuration for Hardware and Software on Mobile Devices, Laptops, Workstations and Servers
- 6 Maintenance, Monitoring and Analysis of Audit Logs

## Foundational CIS Controls

- 7 Email and Web Browser Protections
- 8 Malware Defenses
- 9 Limitation and Control of Network Ports, Protocols, and Services
- 10 Data Recovery Capabilities
- 11 Secure Configuration for Network Devices, such as Firewalls, Routers, and Switches
- 12 Boundary Defense
- 13 Data Protection
- 14 Controlled Access Based on the Need to Know
- 15 Wireless Access Control
- 16 Account Monitoring and Control

## Organizational CIS Controls

- 17 Implement a Security Awareness and Training Program
- 18 Application Software Security
- 19 Incident Response and Management
- 20 Penetration Tests and Red Team Exercises



# CLOSING THOUGHTS



# Stop blaming users

- Security warnings have become meaningless
- Passwords
  - Stop the complexity rules
  - Stop password expiration
  - Let people use password managers
- Phishing works because linking works

# Security needs to change

- If users do not change, security needs to change
- Successful examples
  - Automatic updates
  - Cloud docs vs desktop docs
  - Sandboxing for browsing

# Frameworks

LM Kill Chain



NIST

Function Unique Identifier	Category	
ID	Asset Management	
	Business Environment	
	Governance	
	Risk Assessment	
	Risk Management Strategy	
PR	Access Control	
	Awareness and Training	
	Data Security	
	Information Protection Processes and Procedures	
	Maintenance	
	Protective Technology	
	Anomalies and Events	
DE	Security Continuous Monitoring	
	Detection Processes	Functions
	Response Planning	IDENTIFY
	Communications	
	Analysis	
RS	Mitigation	PROTECT
	Improvements	
	Recovery Planning	Detect
	Improvements	
RC	Communications	RESPOND
		RECOVER

Crowd Strike

SECURITY FOUNDATIONS	
Asset management and maintenance	
Data classification	
Testing and exercises	
Operational baselines	
Backups	
PREVENTION	
Access controls	
Security architecture and segmentation	
Hardening	
Patching and vulnerability management	
Account / Authentication management	
Preventive technologies	
Secure development	
DETECTION	
Log management and analysis	
Detection technologies	
Monitoring process	
Proactive hunting	
RESPONSE	
Triage	
Plans and playbooks	
Communications and escalation protocols	
Roles and responsibilities	
Forensic analysis	
Containment and eradication	
Root cause and lessons learned	
GOVERNANCE	
Plans, policies, and procedures	
Security culture	
Awareness and training	
Risk management	
Executive management	
THREAT INTELLIGENCE	
Risk identification	
Strategic intelligence	
Operational intelligence	
Intelligence sources	

# Guidance

- Look at your peers
- Use industry best practices
- Hire external council, assessments
- Practice major incident response plan
  - Including media
  - At least once a year
- Revisit incident response plan after each major event
- Buy insurance



# Guidance

- Invest in Machine Learning (ML) for security
- Consultants role
- Build the team internally

# State of the practice?

We have the technology, the brains, the funding, yet ...

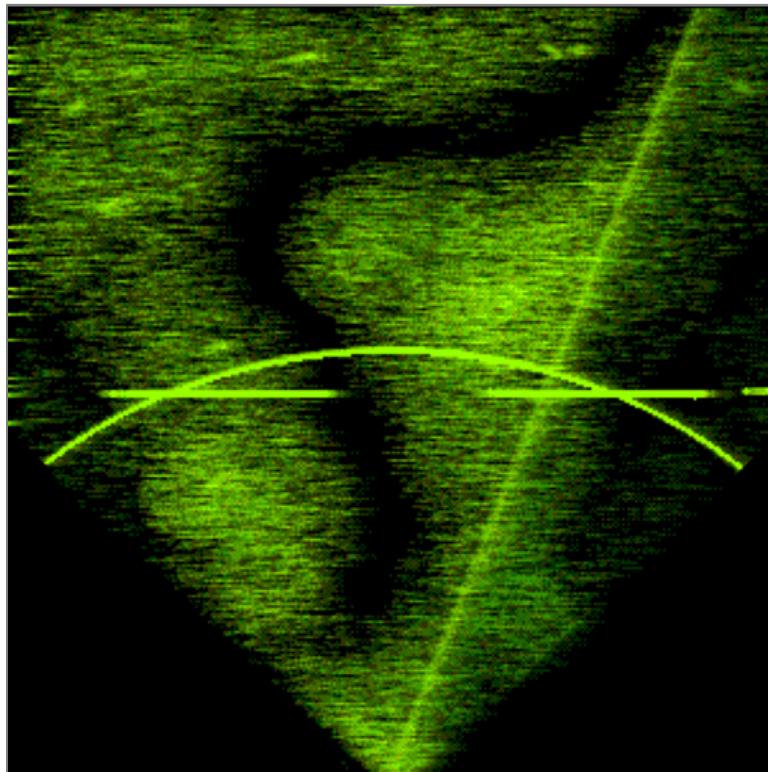
- Our operations are slow ... reactive ...
- We are running into a skill gap/fatigue
- We don't make their life hard enough

# Security Teams Today

- Spend most of their time
  - Tuning
  - Mastering
  - Configuring
  - A lot of effort to make tools work

# Technology transforming human operations

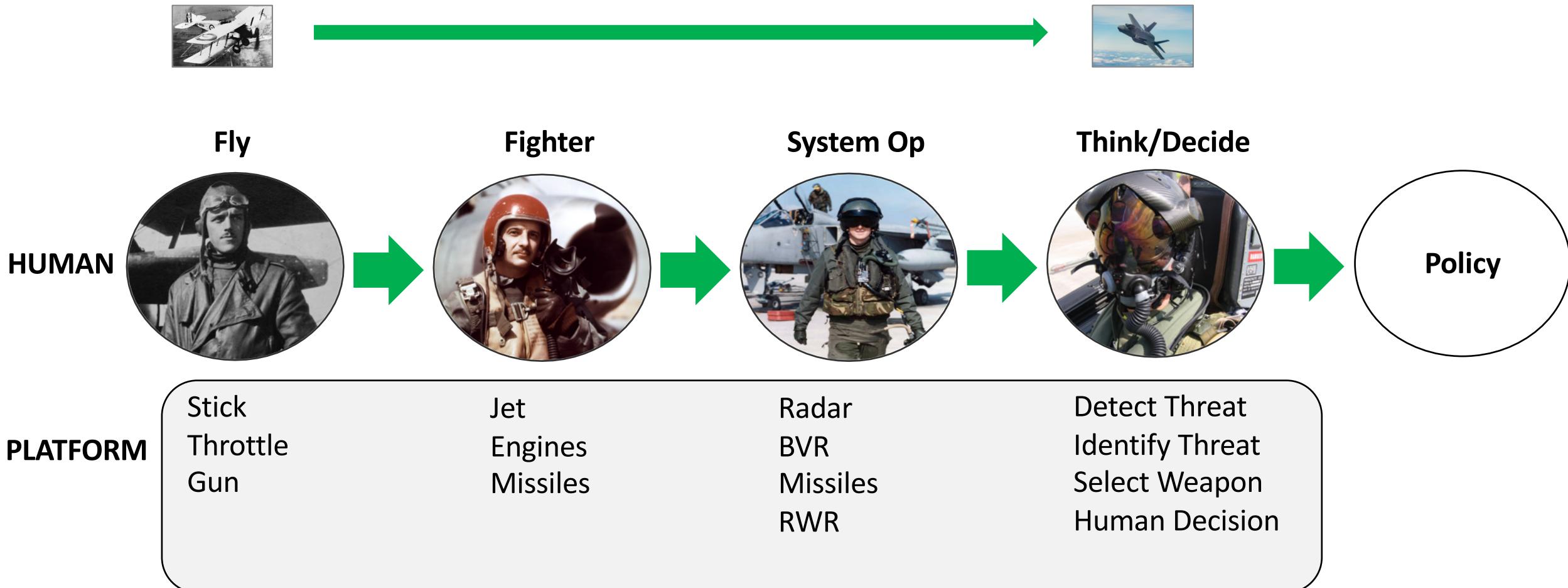
1965 Aviation Radar



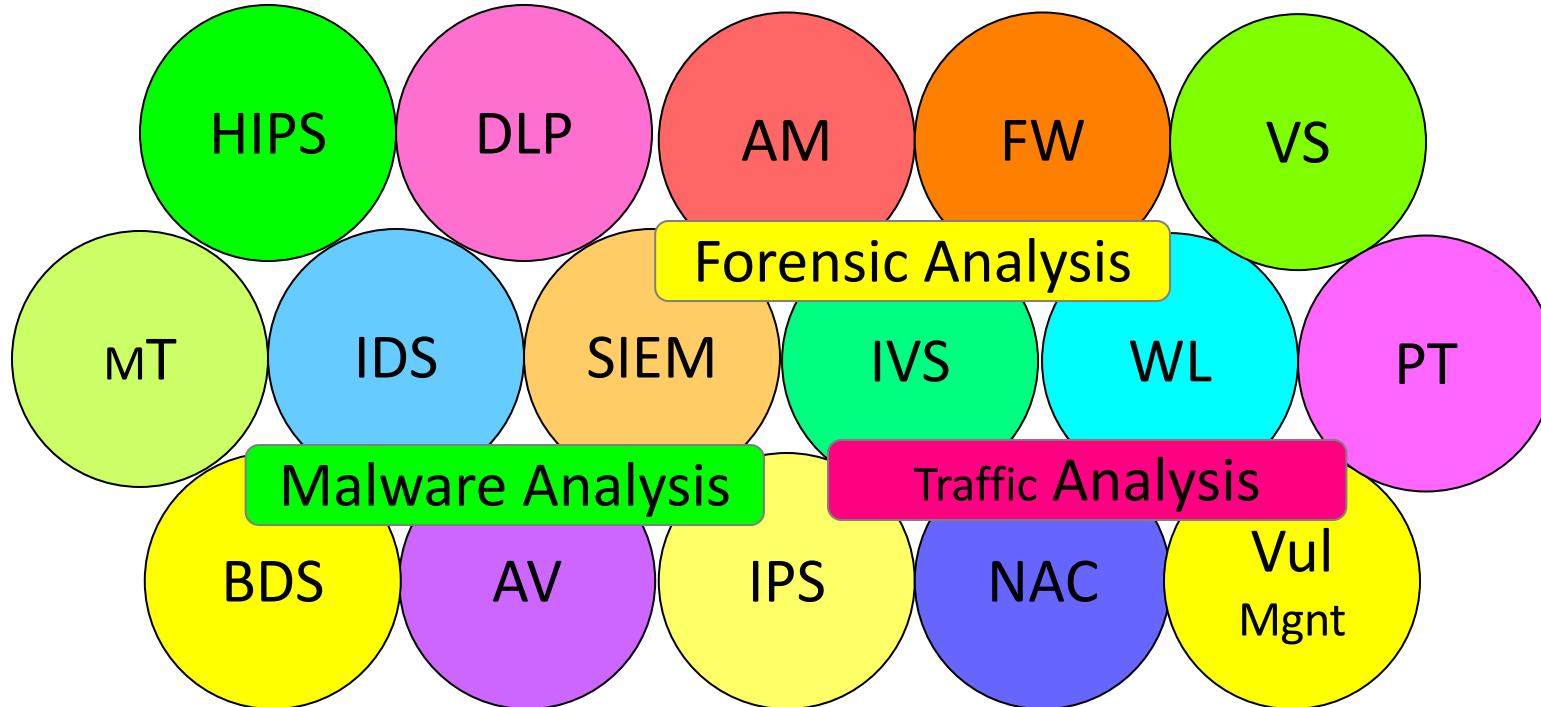
2015 Tactical Situation Display



# Operator Transformation



# Tool explosion



# Conclusion

- Build talent pipelines
- Best practices – top controls
- Cybersecurity Patterns
- Invest in ML security

# Q & A