

Hi!
Thank you for
your participation

This small booklet is part of a research experiment for my master thesis at KTH. The main topic is about Information Art and its possibilities to reveal hidden processes in the browser. The booklet provides a short explanation of this study, please read it carefully and enjoy the experiment.

During the course of 3 days, you'll have the time to use the customized browser with a set of different tasks and explore two visualizations, cookie invader and abstract tree. The first two days will consist of using the browser for normal tasks and exploring the visualization; feel free to explore, observe, hover, horizontal scroll, click, and watch all the possibilities the browser has. The third day consists of an online video interview of 20 to 30 minutes in order to talk about the visualization.

The custom browser, or L3-37 as it is named, works almost like your favorite browser. Since it is a prototype It might lack some features and It might be a bit slower. However, it will allow you to explore not only the web but reveal hidden data and structures you might never see on the other browsers.

In order to start the experiment it is important to download the browser and install it on your computer. You can download L3-37 from the following link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/1g5dmp-nma0394x8/L337-Mac.dmg?dl=0>

Please select the one for your operating system. To use it just open the program and use it as a normal browser.

If you have any question regarding the experiment or how to install or use the browser feel free to contact me via mail or mobile phone:

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Cookie invader



An internet cookie is a piece of data sent from a website you visit and stored on your computer while you are browsing.



Day 01

Take some time and do your normal browsing routine. Visit different types of websites and watch what happens to the left bar in each visit. try at least to visit 10 to 15 websites, for example:

- ◆ News portals for games, sports, technology...etc
- ◆ Make a search in google, and duck duck go
- ◆ Favourite blog
- ◆ Media platforms like youtube or soundcloud
- ◆ A brand you like
- ◆ Any other you feel like visiting



Take three screenshots of the the *All invaders visualization with All the cookies displayed*: at the beginning of the exploration, after visiting 5 websites and after visiting the last website. Please save the screenshots in a folder.

Day 02

Re-visit a couple of websites from yesterday. For each visit click on the view all cookies button on the top left of the bar in order to extend the visualization.

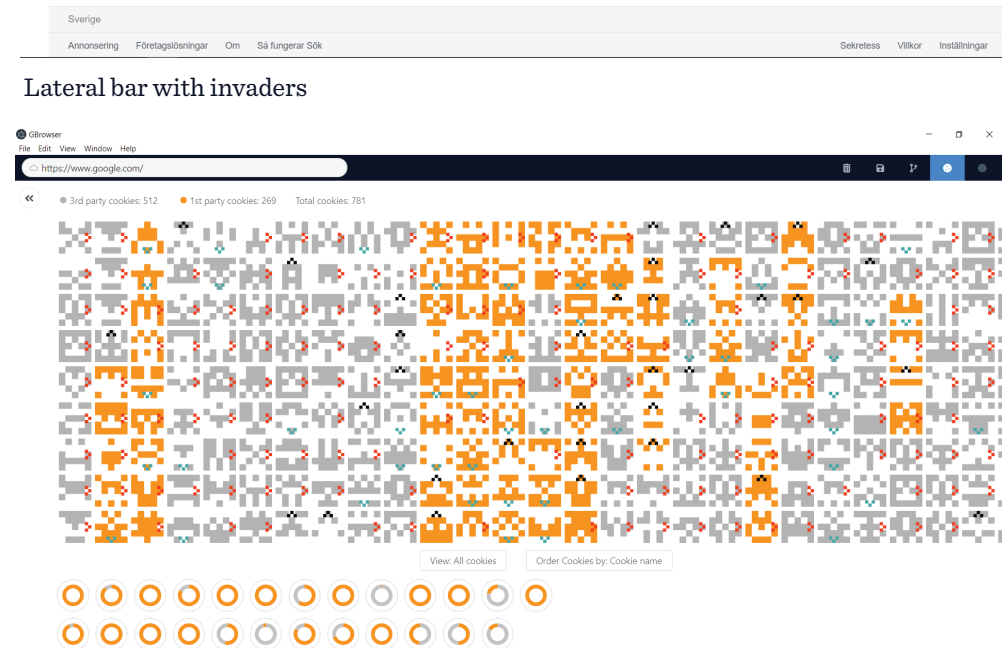
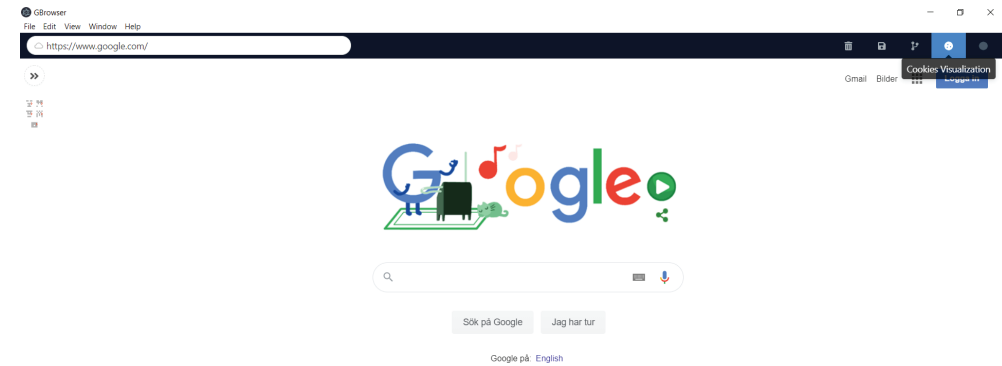
- ◆ Explore the different types of cookies on the website.
- ◆ Hover to view the cookie information
- ◆ Organize them in different ways with the Order button



Click on the View button, and select to view all the invaders you have recollected so far. Try to explore the visualization and gather information like common shapes of cookies, their expiration date, the domain, and check what different types of cookies each website has.



Take a screenshot of the *All invaders visualization with All the cookies displayed* at the end of the day. Please save the screenshots in a folder.

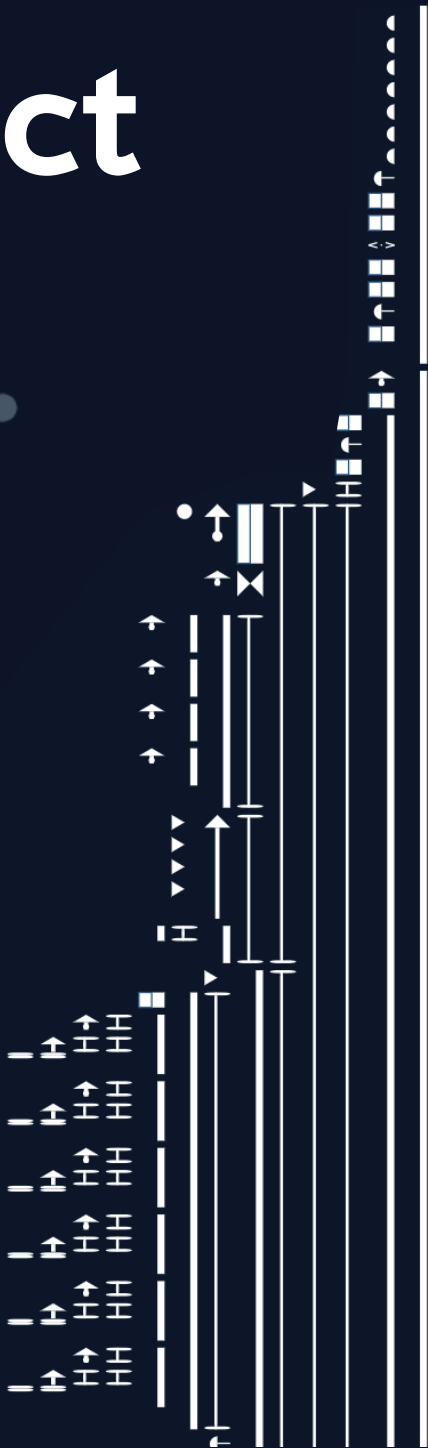


All invaders visualization

Abstract tree



HTML consists of different types of elements, used to enclose, wrap, different parts of the content to make it appear, or act a certain way. HTML defines the structure of the website you visit.



Day 01

Choose three websites you like, each one with different amounts of content and open the tree visualization. For each website do the following:

- ♦ Scroll horizontally to explore the structure
- ♦ Hover on the elements to discover what they are
- ♦ Open the filter menu and modify the size, opacity, and display



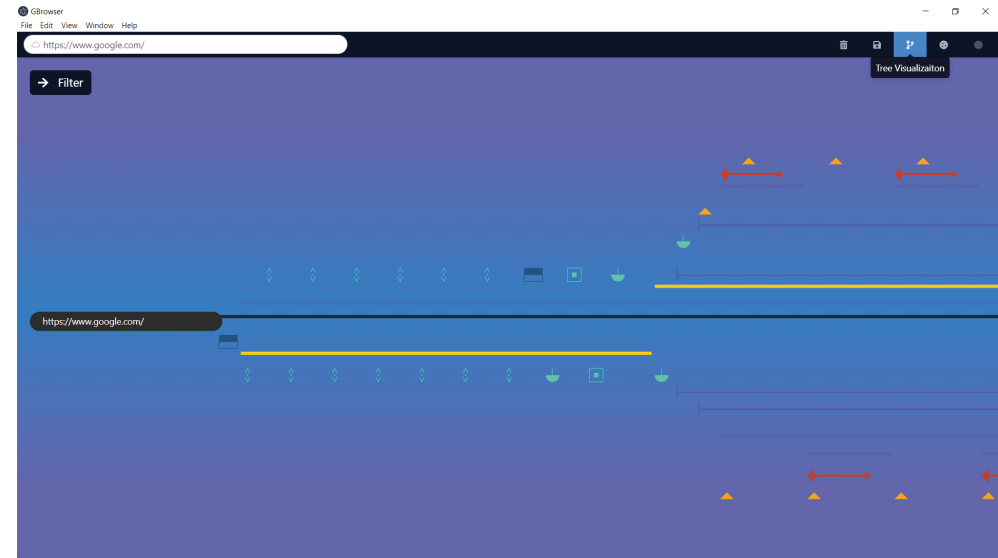
Take a screenshot of the structures that are interesting for you. Please save the screenshot in a folder.

Day 02

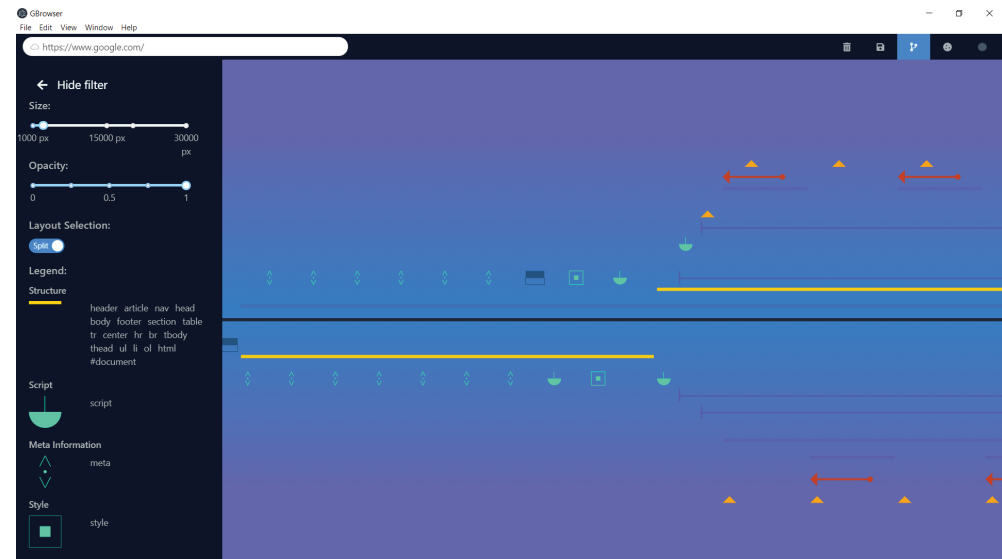
Try to find websites with absolutely different structures and think about what makes them so different.



Take a screenshot of the structures that caught your attention. Please save the screenshots in a folder.



Tree visualization



Filter menu

About

All the material obtained in the experiment and through the observations in the form of video and notes during the interview will be analyzed so that the people that participate will remain anonymous. The material that is collected will only be used by the researcher in the project and will only be used for scientific purposes. The material that is obtained in the test and through the observation will be analyzed by Jonathan Ramirez. During the interview at any time, if you express a desire to stop being observed, videotaped, photographed, this will be done immediately without questioning why. The user is never obliged to answer questions asked. The user should never hesitate to tell the researcher if for some reason the user does not wish to answer a question. At the conclusion of the study, a summary of results will be made available to all interested users.

Extras

If you liked these type of visualizations, here are some special visualizations curated by me. Feel free to explore them in your free time:

Browser fingerprinting
<https://fp.rethread.art/#welcome>

Palatab
<https://patatap.com/>

Ryoji Ikeda, Data anatomy
<https://vimeo.com/62272296>

Bye!

Thank you in for your cooperation and support.

Abstract visualization

