

# USING MACHINE LEARNING TO DETECT MALICIOUS POLYGLOT IMAGES

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## BACKGROUND AND GENERAL GOALS

- Stegosplit** is a browser exploit delivered as images.
- The goal was to make a tool of machine learning to detect a type of steganography called **polyglot**.
- Our project is based on Saumil Shah's article "**Exploit Delivery via Steganography and Polyglots**"

### Projects stages

- Studying and building XSS and CSRF attacks.
- Creating PNG, JPG and GIF Polyglots based on Shah's article and toolkit.
- Encoding various malicious JavaScript codes in 20,000 images taken from the CIFAR-10 dataset.
- Training Decision Trees with various tree depths using multiple encoding methods.

## XSS AND CSRF ATTACKS

### Reflected XSS

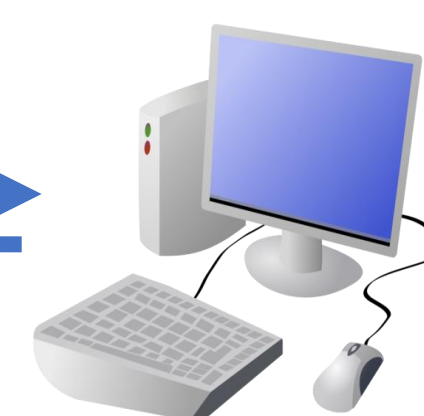


1. Social engineering  
e.g. a dodgy URL



2. Request includes  
malicious data

3. Response includes malicious  
data as active content



### Dom XSS

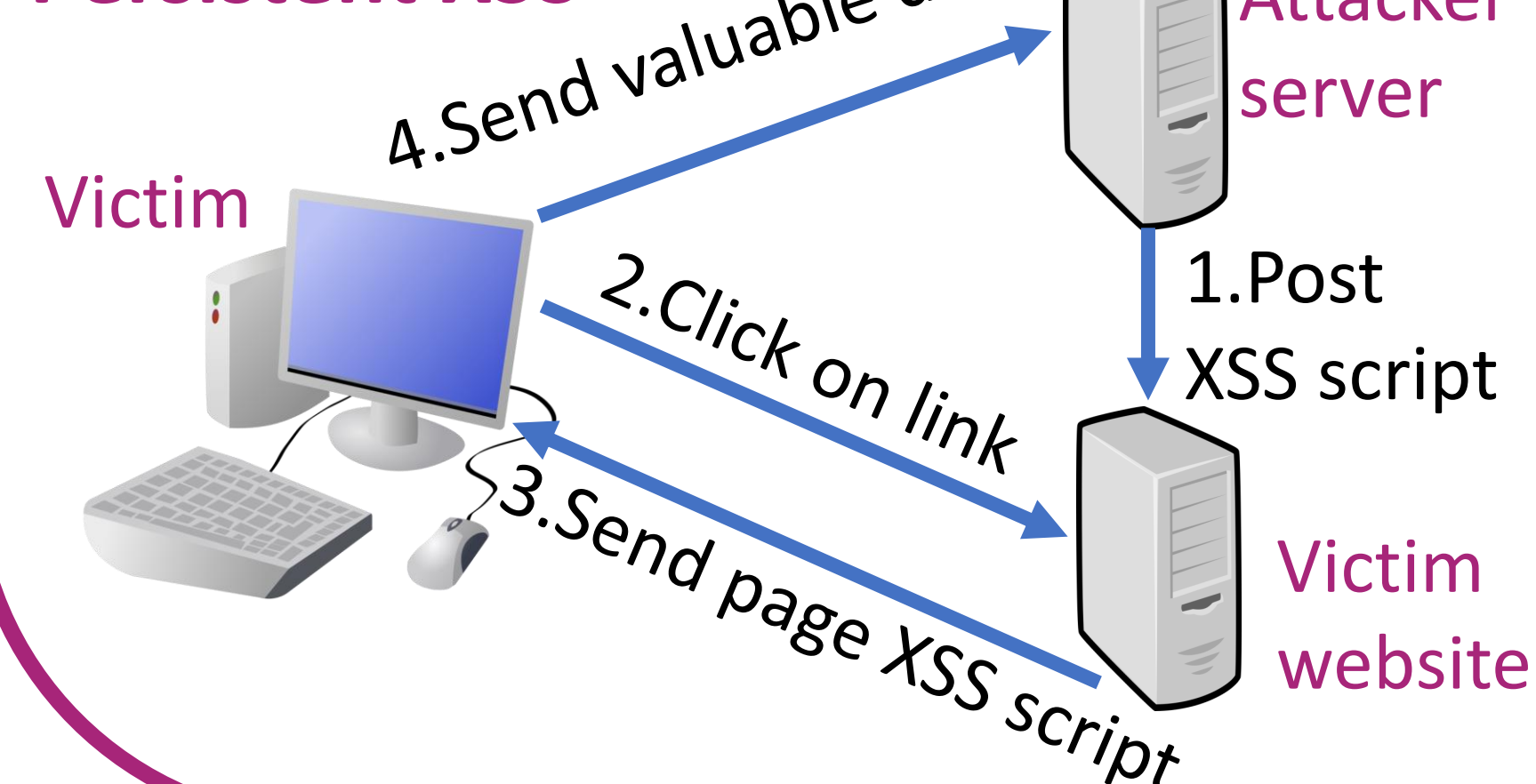


1. Social engineering  
e.g. a dodgy URL



2. Bad client-side code uses malicious  
data verbatim in DOM manipulation

### Persistent XSS



### CSRF



## CREATING A POLYGLOT

- Encode the browser exploit's bits in a layer of the image to create an **encoded image**.
- Insert a decoder in the **image header** to create **IMAJS**, forming a **Polyglot**.
- Attacking a web server (for example with a XSS attack) with the polyglot as resource

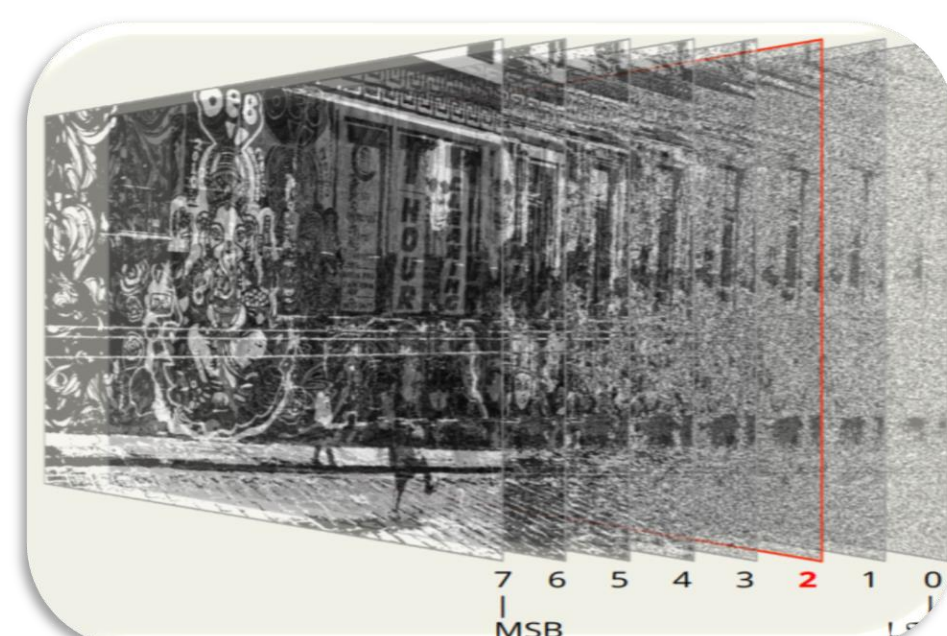


Image layers

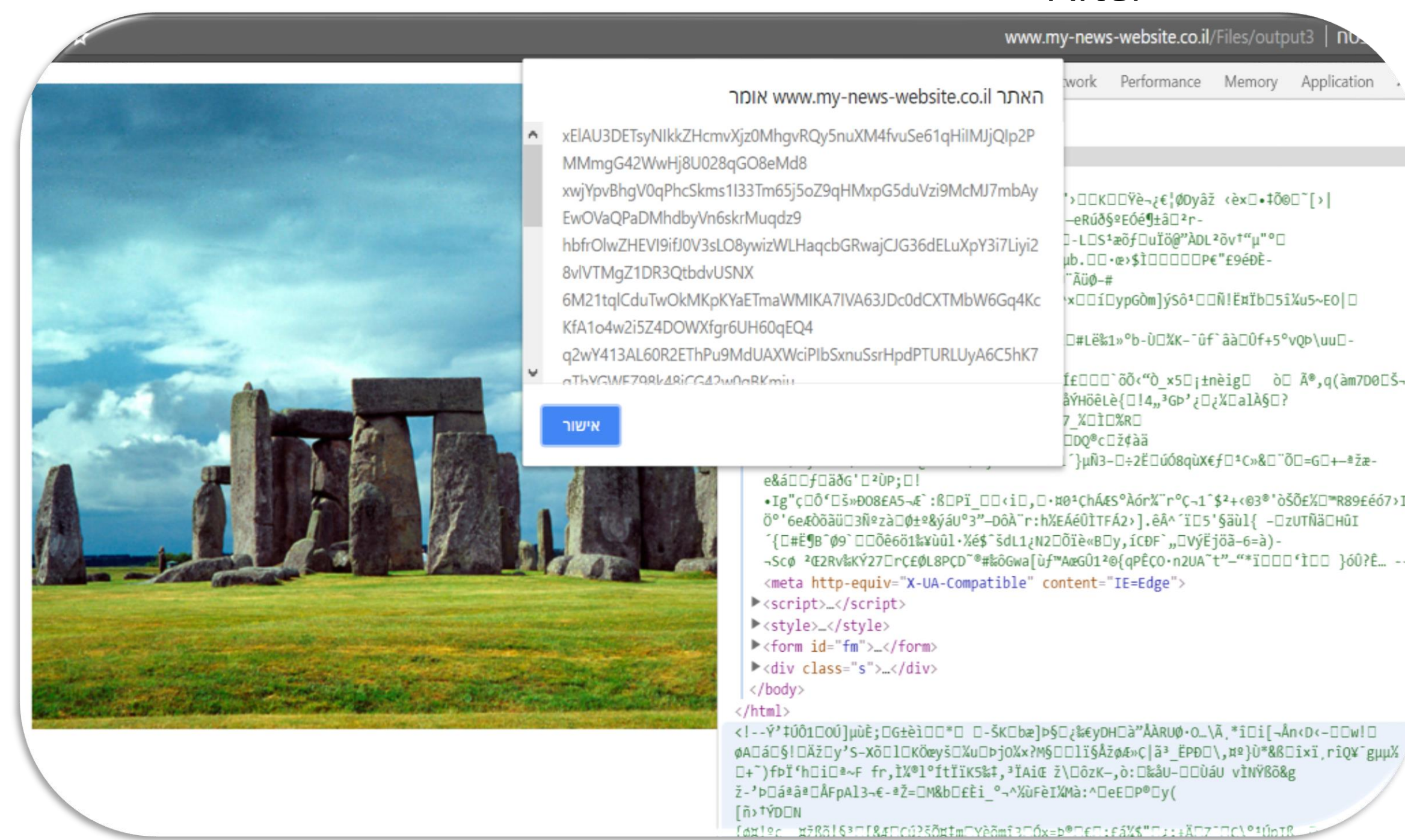
## Attack Example



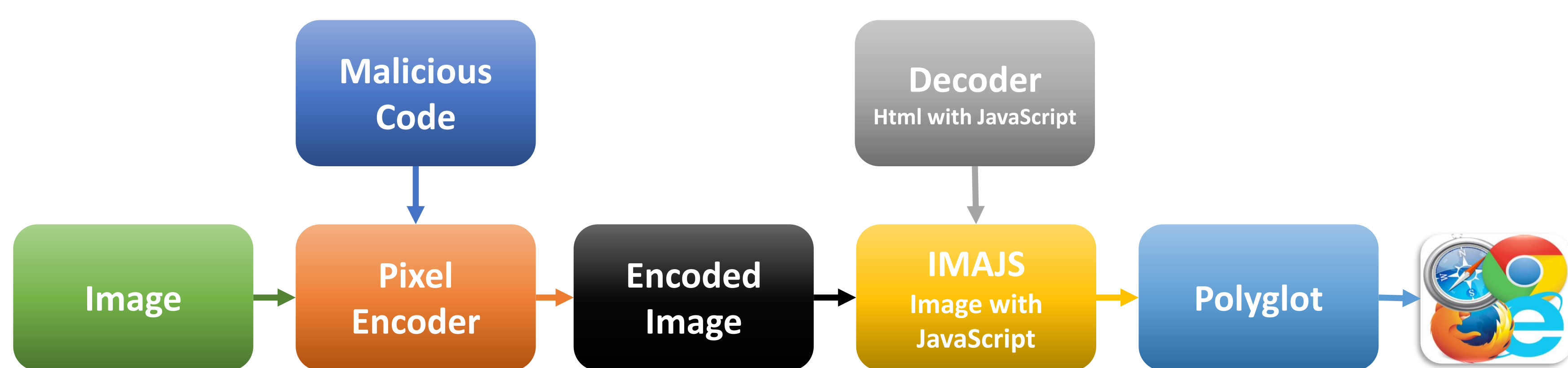
Before



After



### The Structure



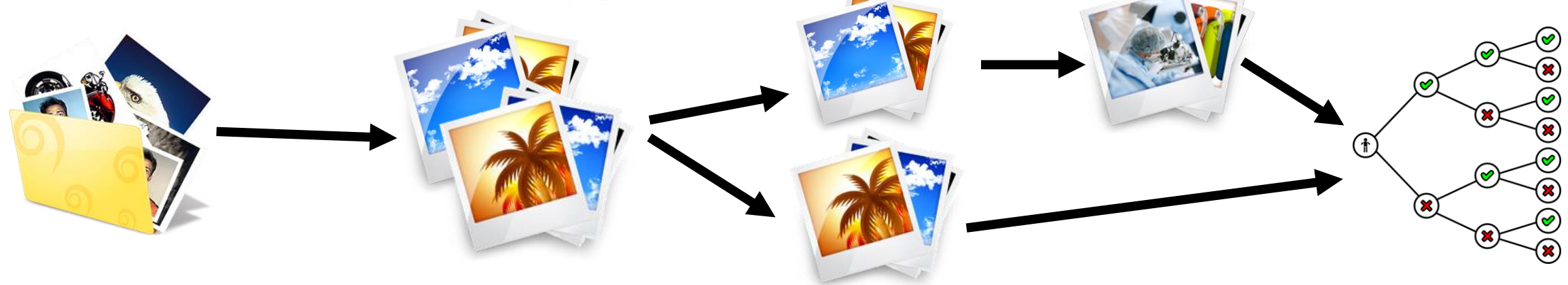
## USING MACHINE LEARNING TO DETECT MALICIOUS POLYGLOT IMAGES

### The Procedure

Extract 20,000 images from  
the CIFAR-10 data set

Insert a malicious code  
into 10,000 of the  
images

Perform a decision forest  
with 80:20 train-test ratio



### Malicious Code Examples

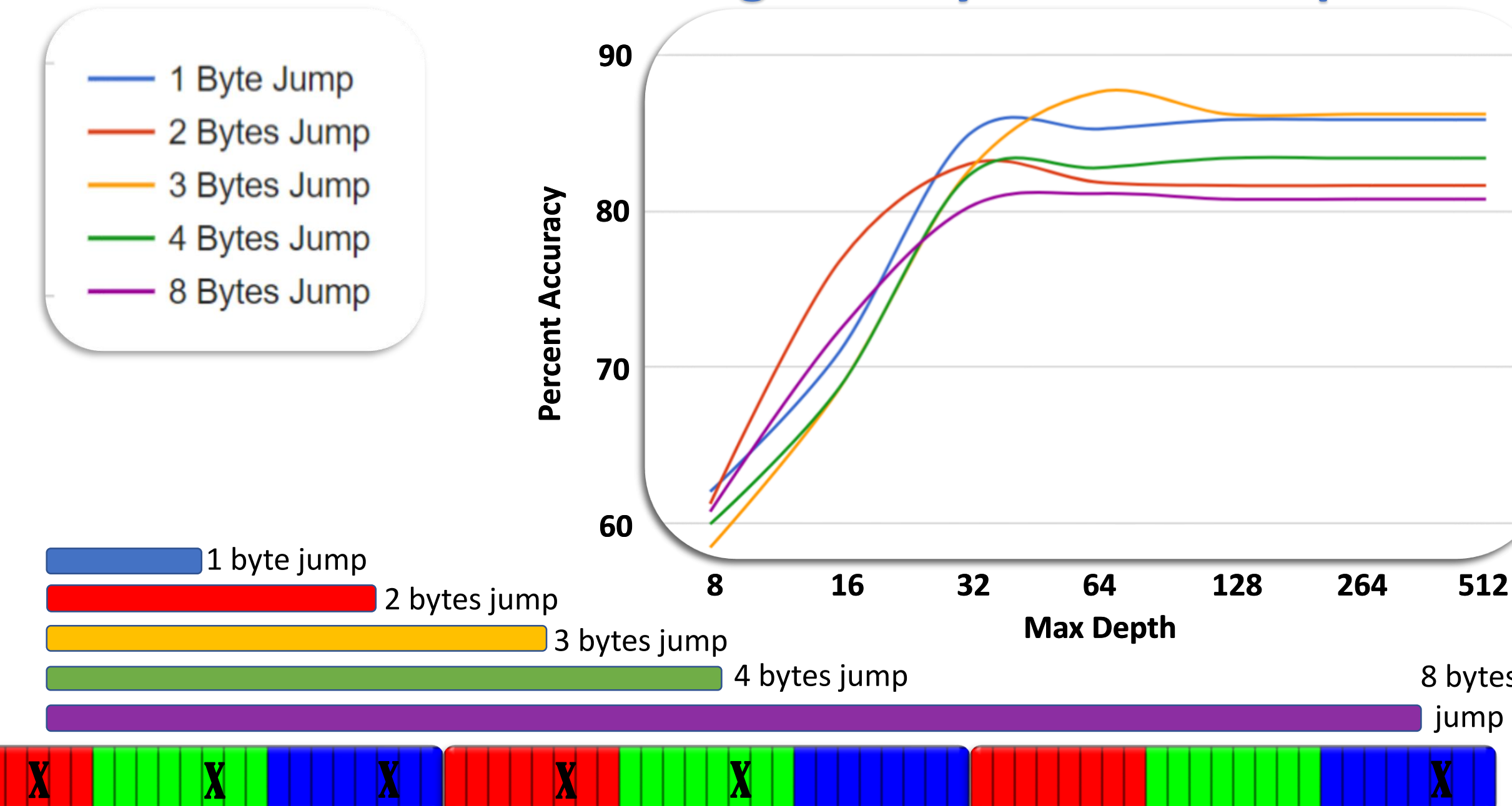
```
var xhttp = new XMLHttpRequest();
xhttp.open("GET",
"malicious.asp?fname=Marco&lname=polo",
true);
xhttp.send();

try{document.getElementById("frm")
.submit();
}catch(err){alert(""+document.cookie;)}

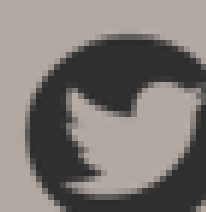
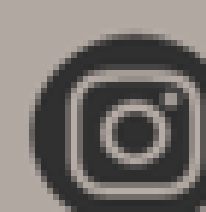
var
x=document.getElementById("inform")
.target;

function Redirect()
{window.location="https://www.youtube.com/
results?search_query=steganography+tutorial";
}
setTimeout('Redirect()', 10000);
```

### Detection Rate Per Encoding Density And Tree Depth



\*2939



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