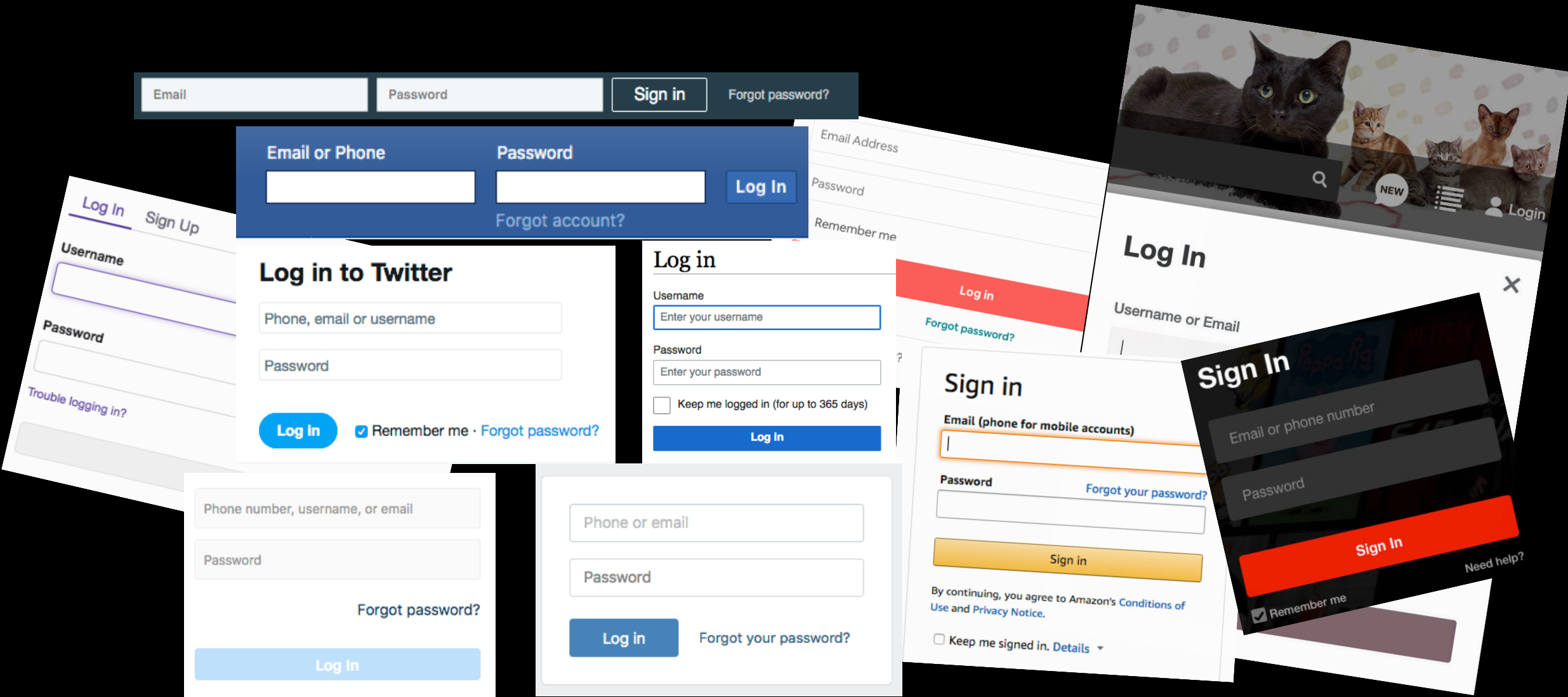


Privacy Considerations for Risk-Based Authentication Systems

Stephan Wiefeling*, Jan Tolsdorf, Luigi Lo Iacono

H-BRS University of Applied Sciences

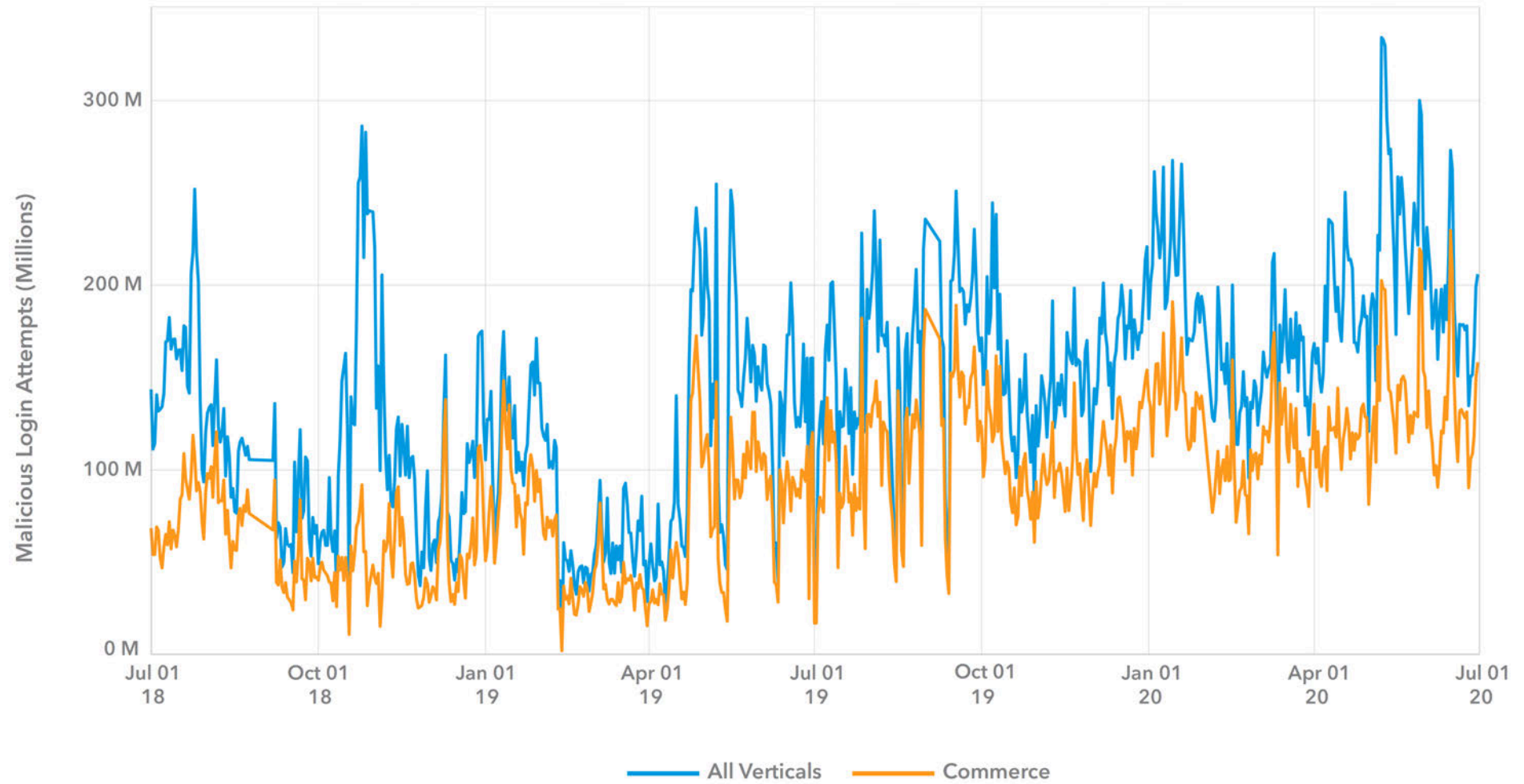
Ruhr University Bochum (*)



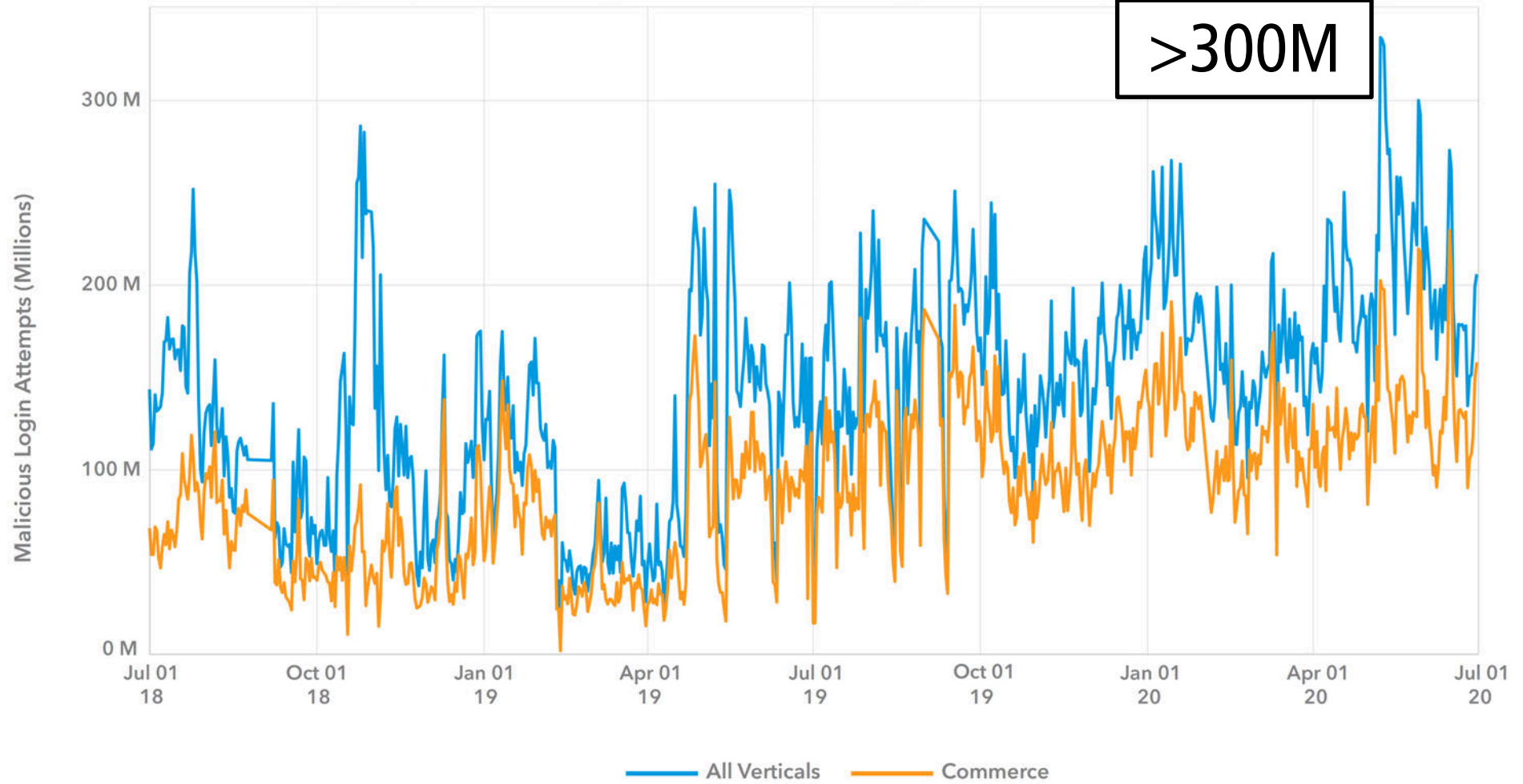
Credential Stuffing

Daily Credential Abuse Attempts (July 2018 – June 2020)

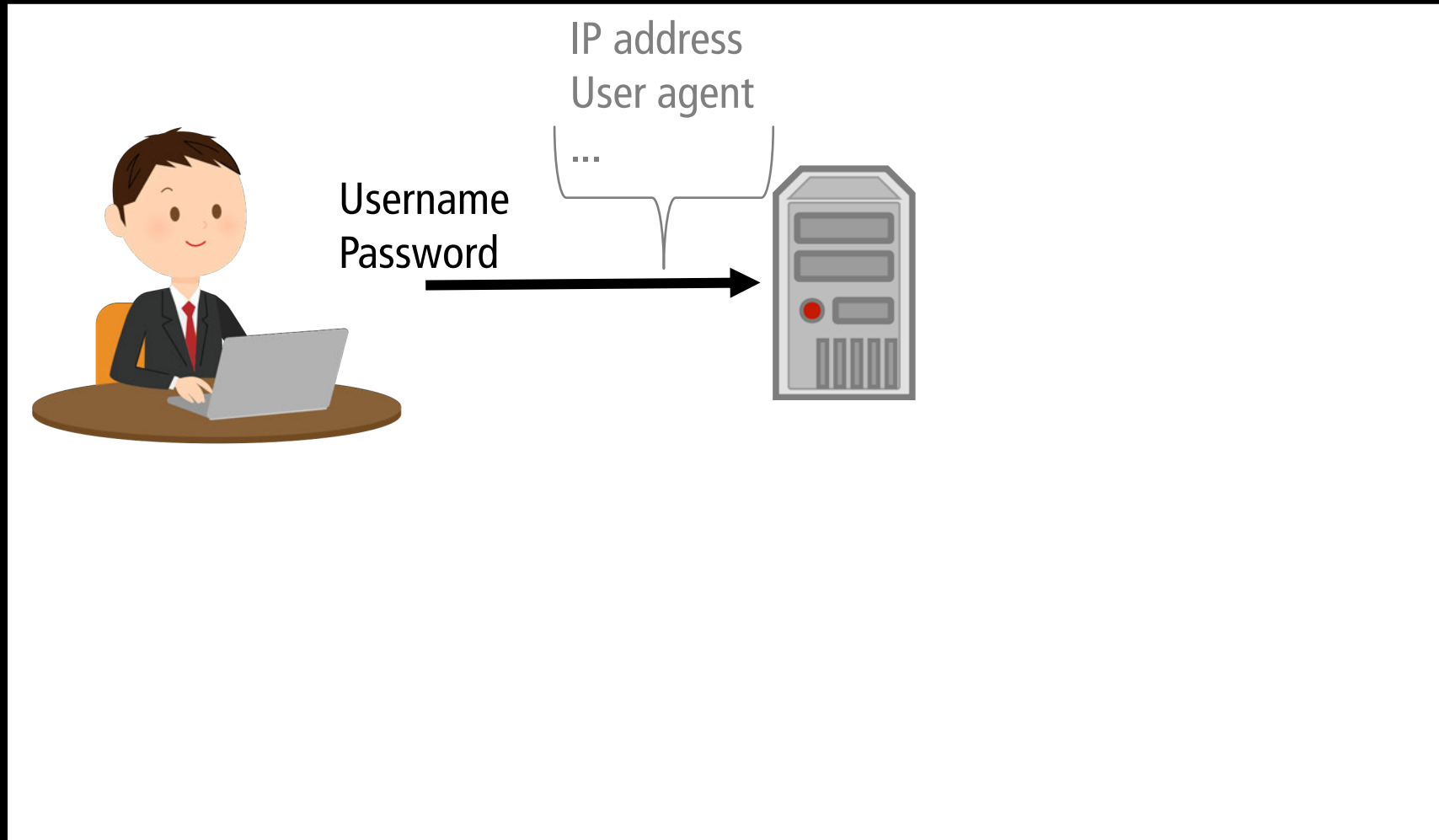
Daily Credential Abuse Attempts (July 2018 – June 2020)

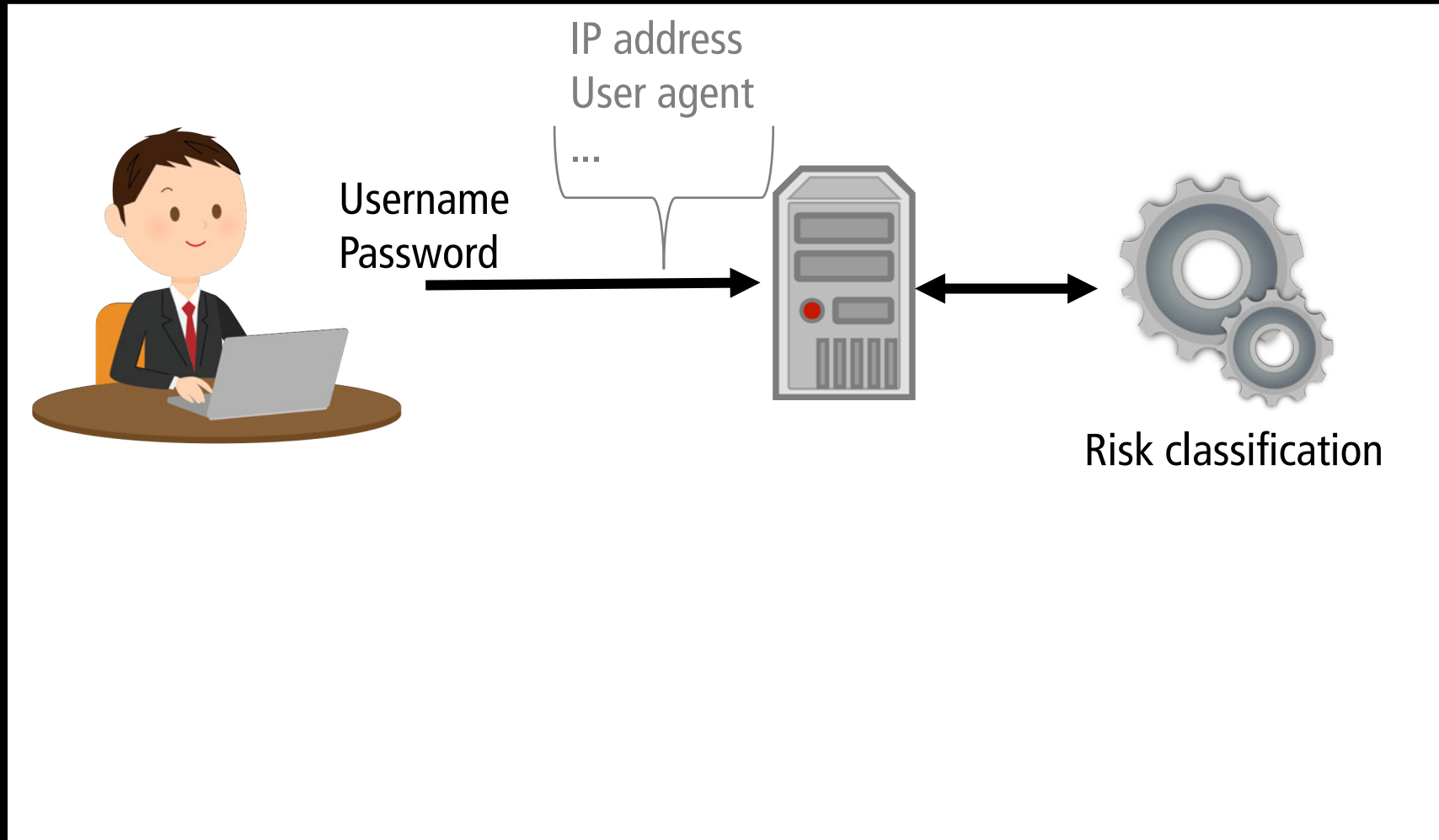


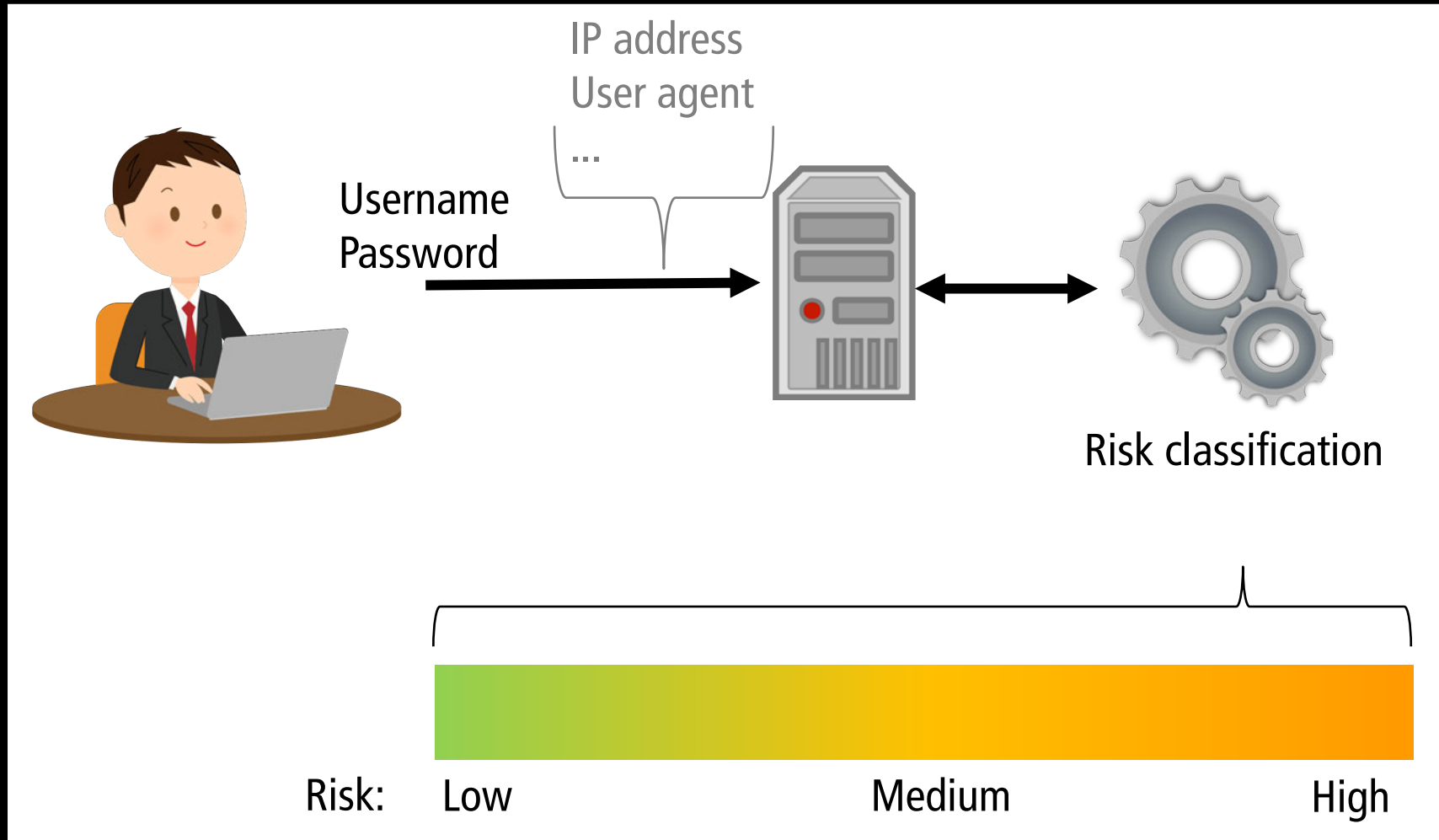
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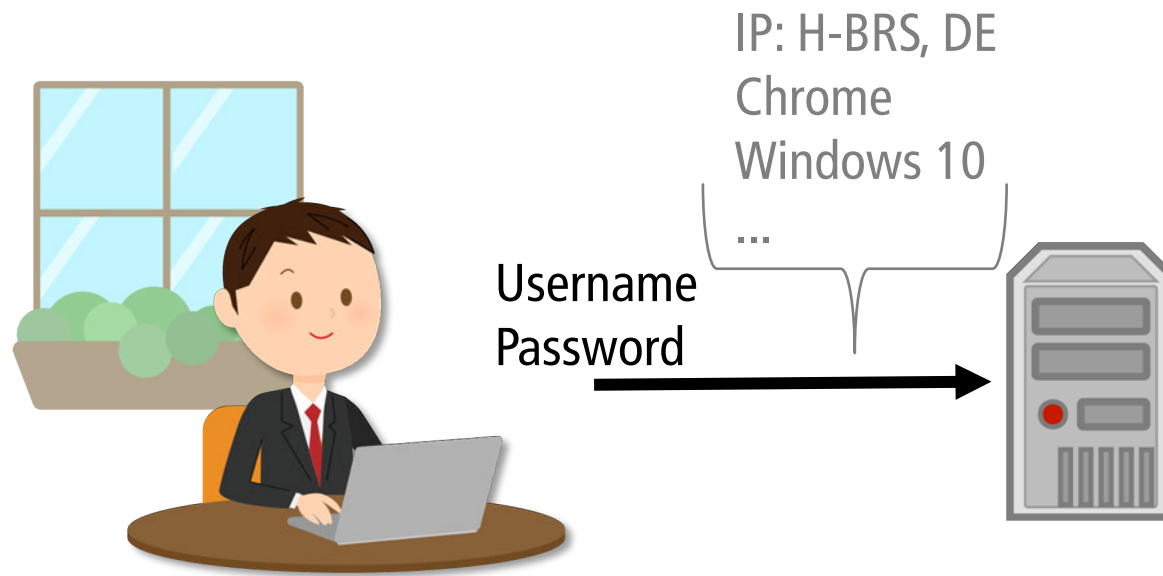


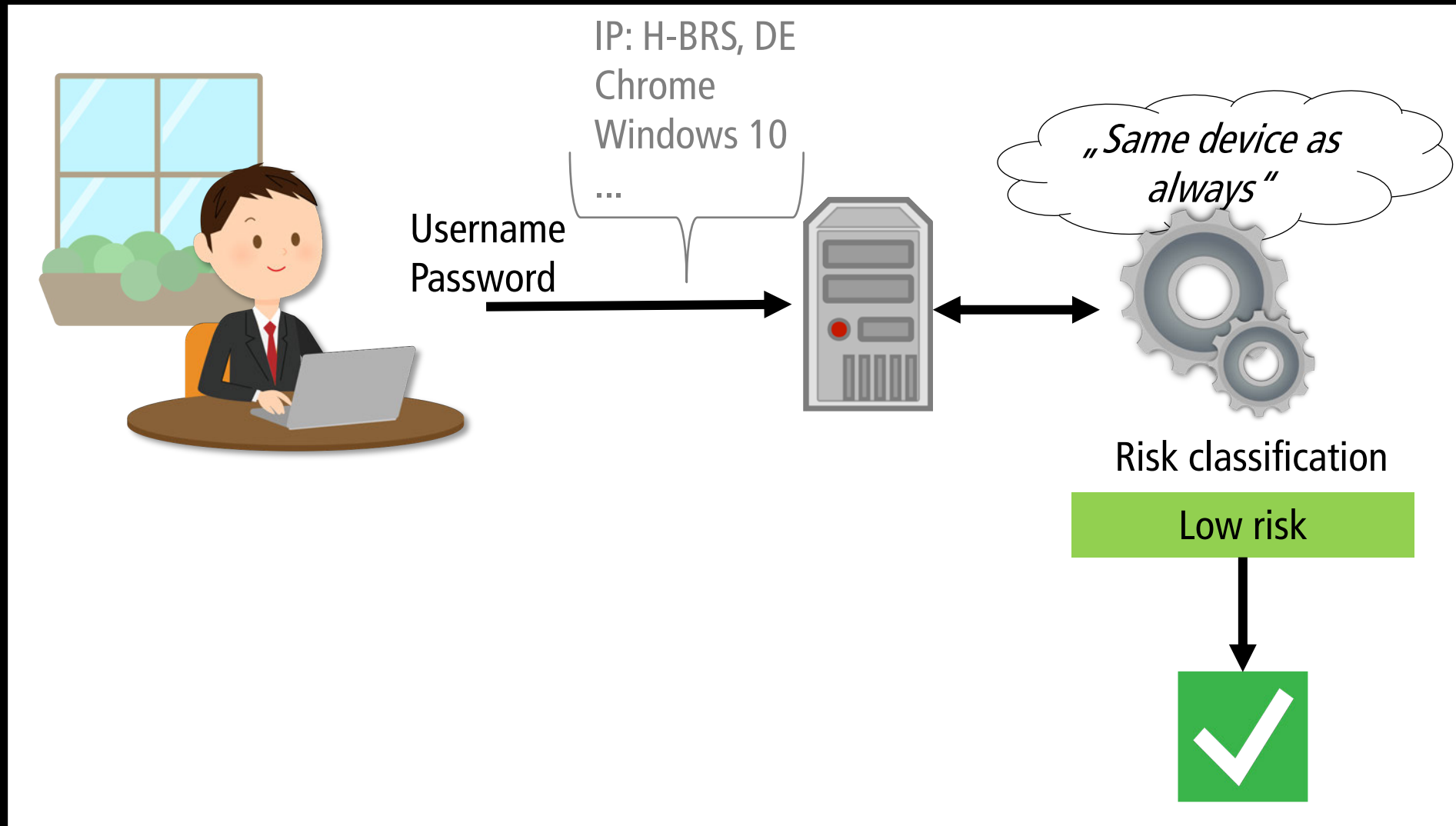
Risk-based Authentication (RBA)

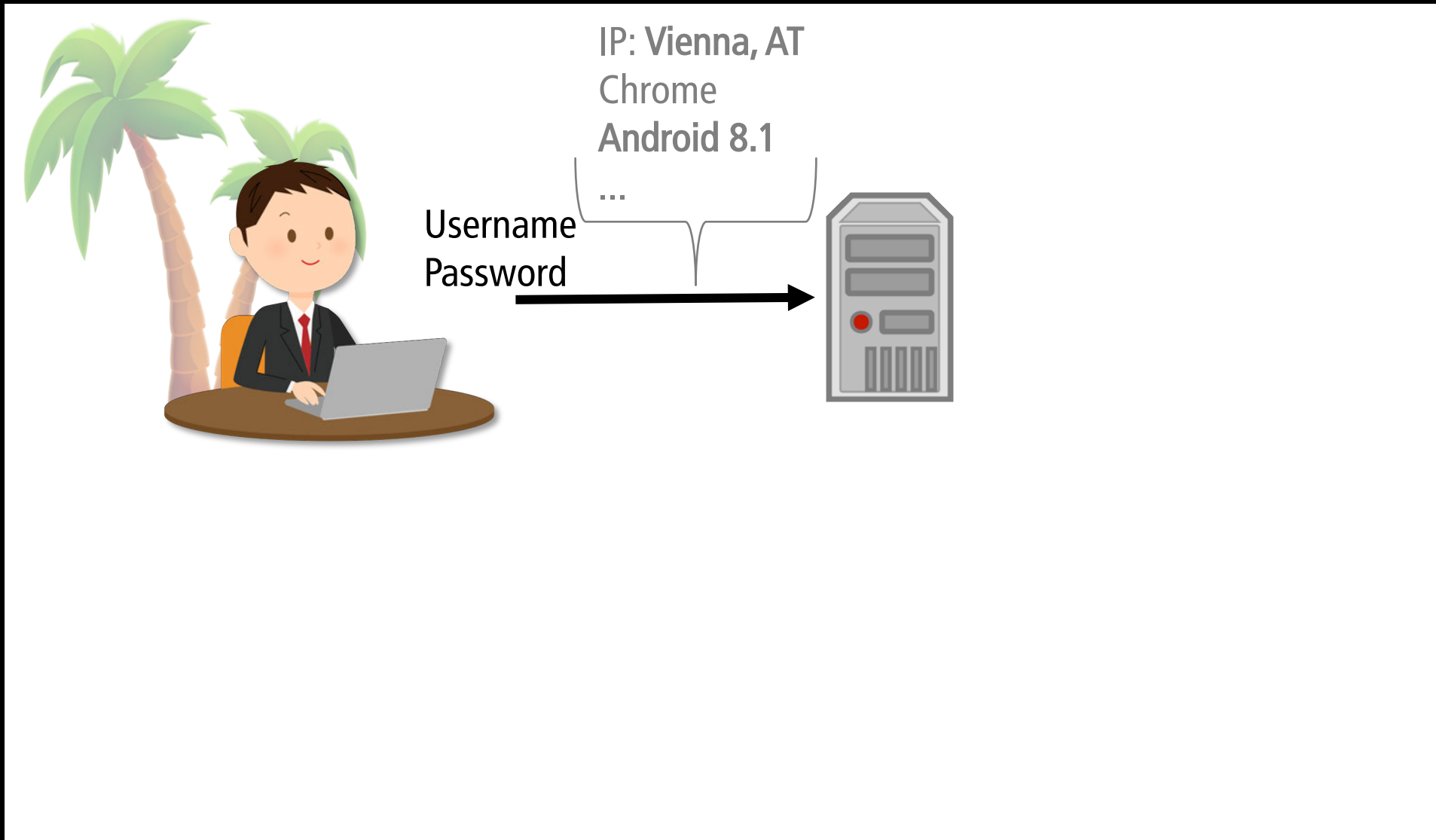


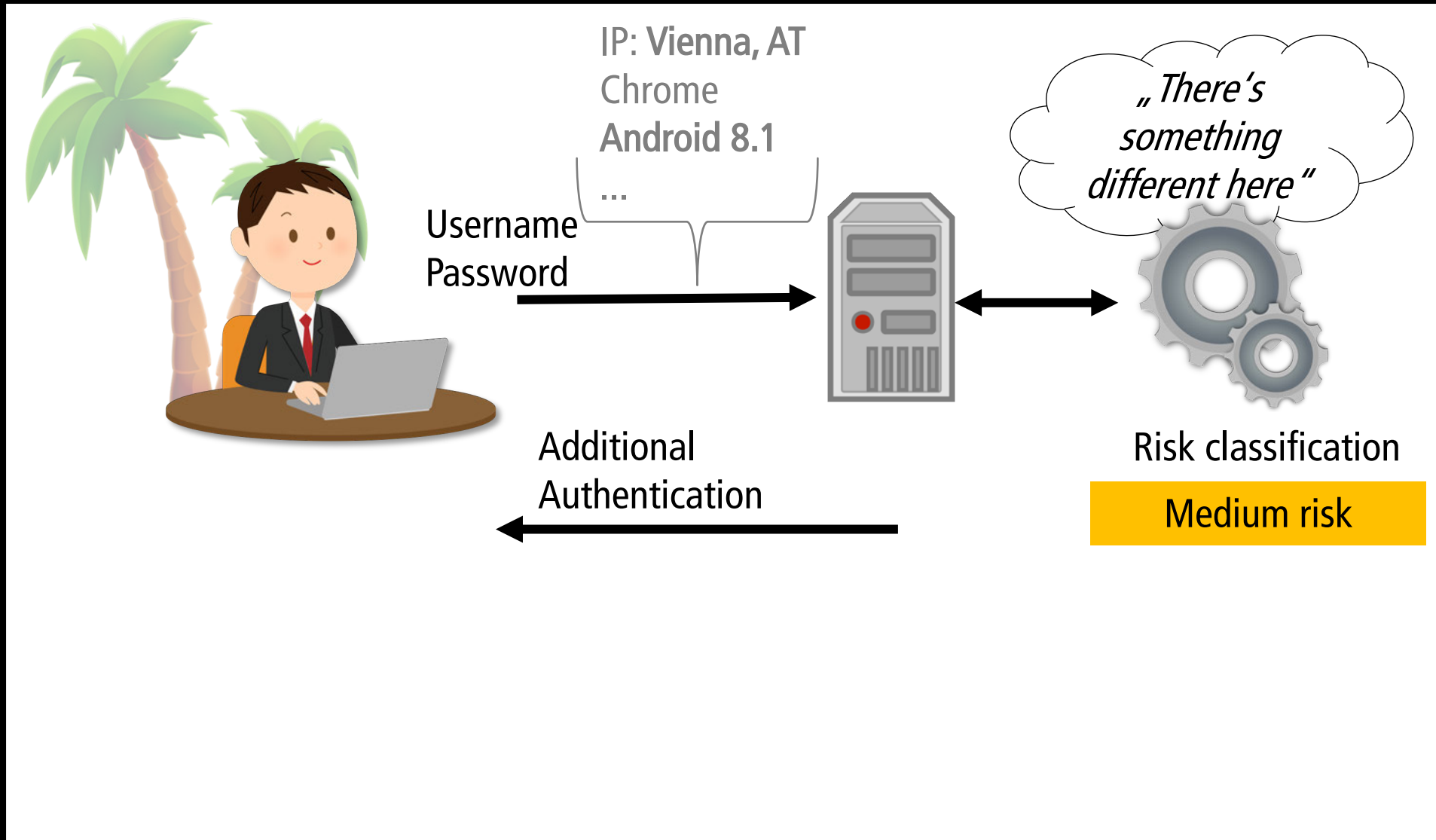


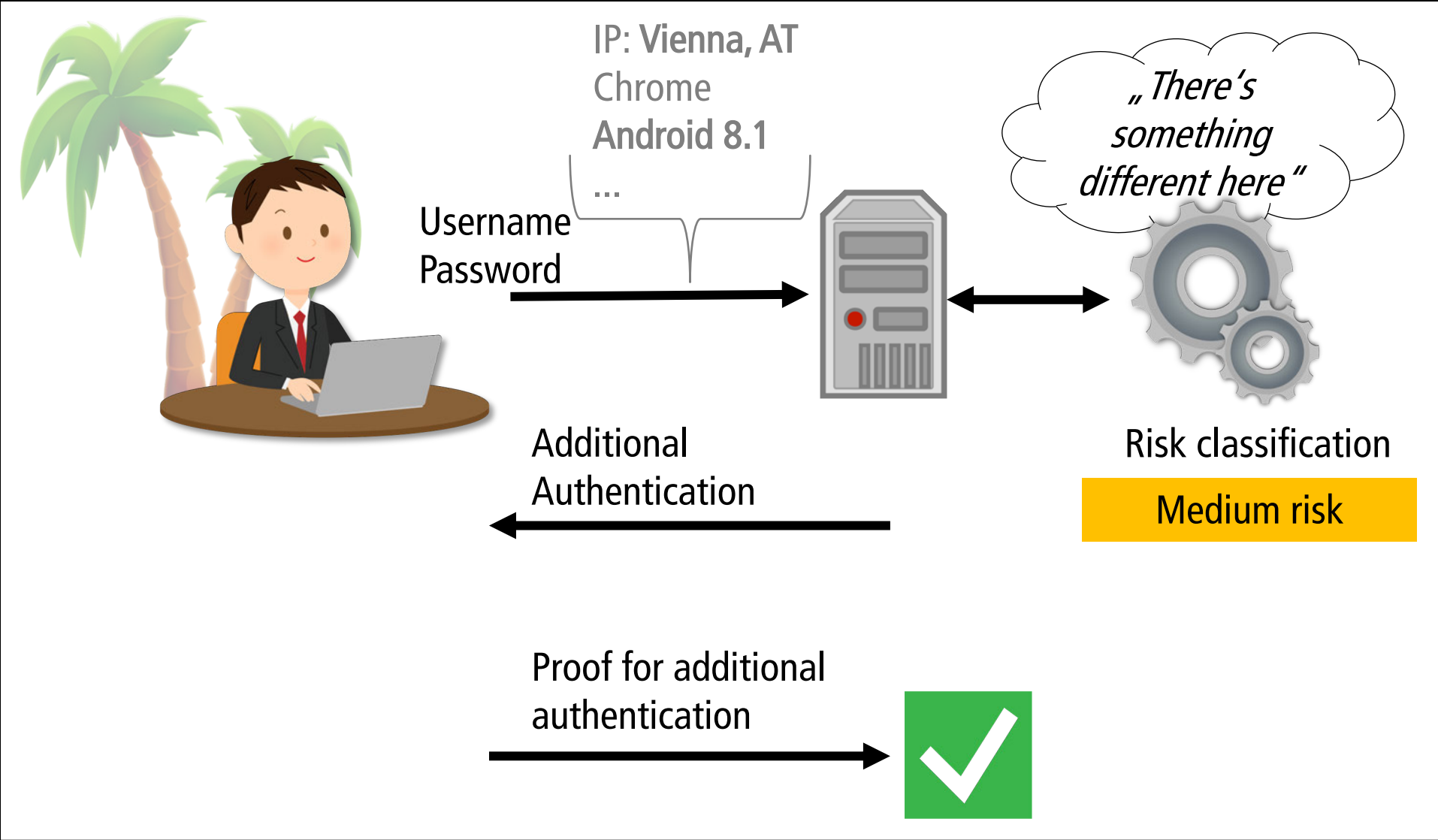












Risk-based Authentication

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[2] NCSC: Cloud security guidance: 10, Identity and authentication (2018)

NIST Special Publication 800-63B

Digital Identity Guidelines

Authentication and Lifecycle Management

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NIST
National Institute of
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U.S. Department of Commerce

Risk-based Authentication

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- More usable than comparable 2FA methods with high security^[3,4]

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Risk-based Authentication

- Recommended by NIST^[1] and NCSC^[2]
- More usable than comparable 2FA methods with high security^[3,4]
- But: Privacy Challenge

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Overview



Threats



Mitigation



Conclusion



Overview



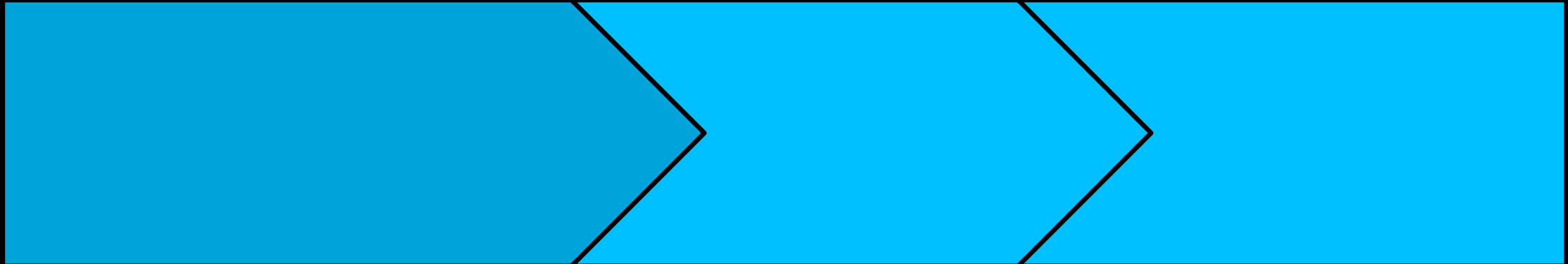
Threats



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Data Misuse

Giridhari Venkatadri*, Elena Lucherini, Piotr Sapiezynski, and Alan Mislove

Investigating sources of PII used in Facebook’s targeted advertising

Keywords: keywords, keywords

DOI 10.2478/popets-2019-0013

Received 2018-05-31; revised 2018-09-15; accepted 2018-09-16.

Online social networking services have become the gateway to the Internet for millions of users, accumulating rich databases of user data that form the basis of their powerful advertising platforms. Today, these services frequently collect various kinds of personally identifying information (PII), such as phone numbers, email addresses, and names and dates of birth. Since this PII often represents extremely accurate, unique, and verified user data, these services have the incentive to exploit it for other purposes, including to provide advertisers with more accurate targeting. Indeed, most popular services have launched PII-based targeting features that allow advertisers to target users with ads directly by uploading the intended targets’ PII. Unfortunately, these services often do not make such usage clear to users,

accounts being set to their most private settings. Overall, our paper highlights the need for the careful design of usable privacy controls for, and detailed disclosure about, the use of sensitive PII in targeted advertising.

1 Introduction

Users conduct an increasingly large fraction of their everyday activities online, often via online social network services such as Twitter and Facebook. By virtue of being free, these services have become extremely popular; this has allowed them to collect data about an extensive set of users. These services use this data for various purposes, most notably to build advertising platforms through which advertisers can target platform users.

In particular, these services collect significant amounts of *personally identifiable information* (PII)—information such as email addresses or phone numbers



Ink Drop/Shutterstock (Licensed)

Facebook reportedly gives users' hidden contact info to advertisers

Facebook is at it again.



Nahila Bonfiglio

Tech

Published Sep 28, 2018 Updated May 21, 2021, 5:24 am CDT

Facebook has been under constant scrutiny following a slew of accusations and revelations. The company is again in the hot seat. The company confirmed that it uses contact info to target them with ads.

9 (1):227-244

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ar;
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us
as



Data Forwarding

Data Forwarding

e.g., to state actors,
advertising networks



Data Breach

[Home](#)[Notify me](#)[Domain search](#)[Who's been pwned](#)[Passwords](#)[API](#)[About](#)[Donate](#) 

Pwned websites

Breached websites that have been loaded into Have I Been Pwned

Here's an overview of the various breaches that have been consolidated into this Have I Been Pwned. These are accessible programmatically via [the HIBP API](#) and also [via the RSS feed](#).



000webhost

In approximately March 2015, the free web hosting provider [000webhost](#) suffered a [major data breach](#) that exposed almost 15 million customer records. The data was sold and traded before 000webhost was alerted in October. The breach included names, email addresses and plain text passwords.

Breach date: 1 March 2015

Date added to HIBP: 26 October 2015

Compromised accounts: 14,936,670

Compromised data: Email addresses, IP addresses, Names, Passwords

[Permalink](#)



123RF

In March 2020, the stock photo site [123RF](#) suffered a [data breach](#) which impacted over 8 million subscribers and was subsequently sold online. The breach included email, IP and physical addresses, names, phone

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RBA Model*

*Based on Freeman et al.: Who Are You? A Statistical Approach to Measuring User Authenticity. NDSS (2016).

RBA Model*

- Comparable to models apparently used by Google, Amazon, and LinkedIn

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$$Score_{user}(FeatureValues) =$$

$$Score_{user}(FV) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^d \frac{p(FV_k)}{p(FV_k)} \right)$$

$$Score_{user}(FV) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^d \frac{p(FV_k)}{p(FV_k | user, legitimate)} \right) \dots$$



Aggregating

| Feature Value | |
|---------------|---|
| | A |
| | B |
| | C |
| | A |
| | C |
| | B |

| Feature Value | |
|---------------|---|
| | A |
| | B |
| | C |
| | A |
| | C |
| | B |



| Feature Value | |
|---------------|---|
| | A |
| | A |
| | B |
| | B |
| | C |
| | C |

| Feature Value | |
|---------------|---|
| | A |
| | B |
| | C |
| | A |
| | C |
| | B |



| Feature Value | |
|---------------|---|
| | A |
| | A |
| | B |
| | B |
| | C |
| | C |

$$Score_{user}(FV) = 0.2$$

$$Score_{user}(FV) = 0.2$$



Hashing

$$H(192.168.1.166 \parallel salt) = 243916 \dots aad132$$

$$H(192.168.1.166 \parallel salt) = 243916 \dots aad132$$

Identical risk score



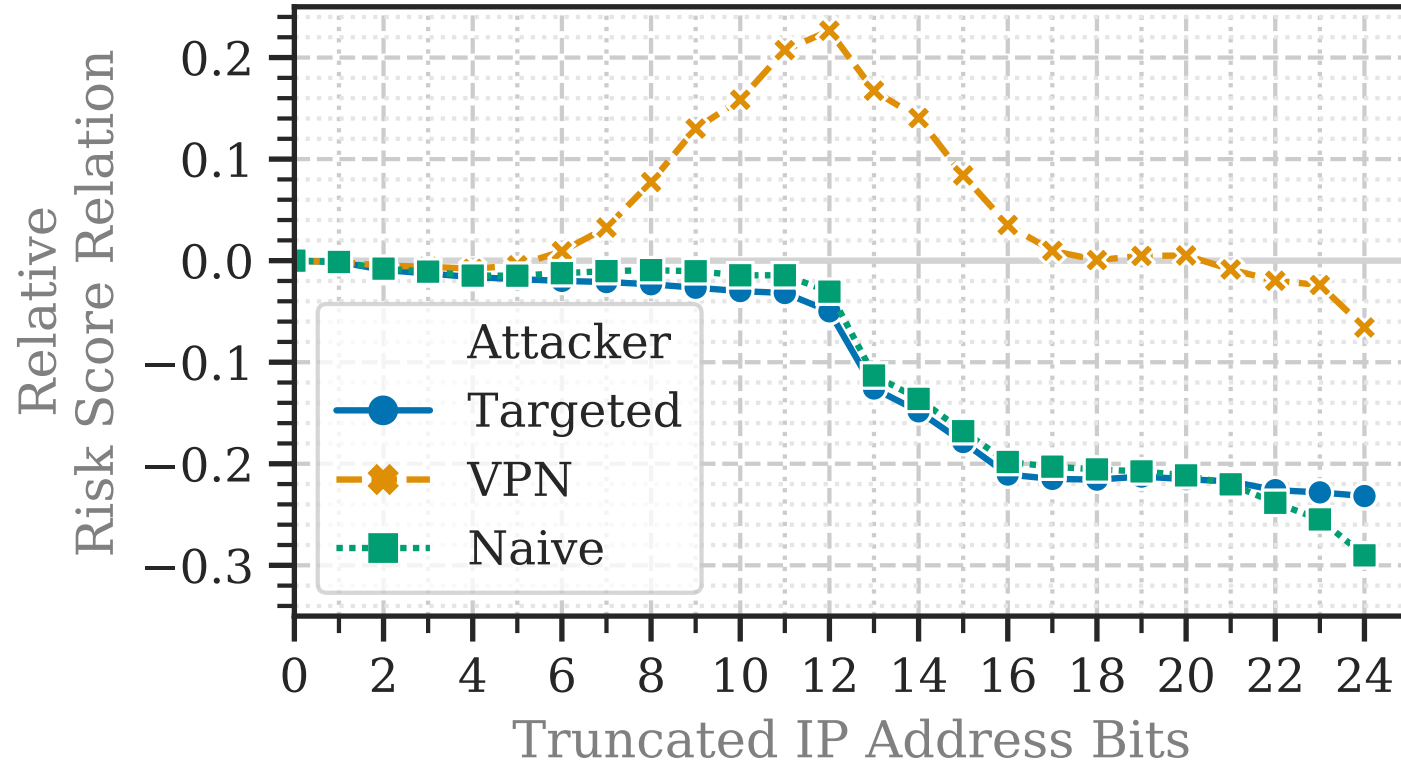
Truncation



Truncate(192.168.1.166, 8 *Bit*) = 192.168.1.0

Truncate(192.168.1.166, 8 *Bit*) = 192.168.1.0

Different risk score!



Attackers and
legitimate users
harder to distinguish
when truncating



k-Anonymity



| User | Feature Value |
|------|---------------|
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B |
| 3 | B |

| User | Feature Value |
|------|---------------|
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B |
| 3 | B |

| User | Feature Value |
|------|---------------|
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B |
| 3 | B |



| User | Feature Value |
|------|---------------|
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B |
| 3 | B |
| 4 | A |

$$k = 2$$

| User | Feature Value |
|------|---------------|
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B |
| 3 | B |



| User | Feature Value |
|------|---------------|
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B |
| 3 | B |
| 4 | A |

Different risk score!

$k = 2$

| k | Additional Entries | Increase to Baseline |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 2 | 3928 | 0.41 |
| 3 | 7965 | 0.83 |
| 4 | 12013 | 1.26 |
| 5 | 16065 | 1.68 |
| 6 | 20120 | 2.11 |

Produces
overhead



Login History Minimization

Remove entries after n months

Remove entries after n months

Different risk score?

Overview



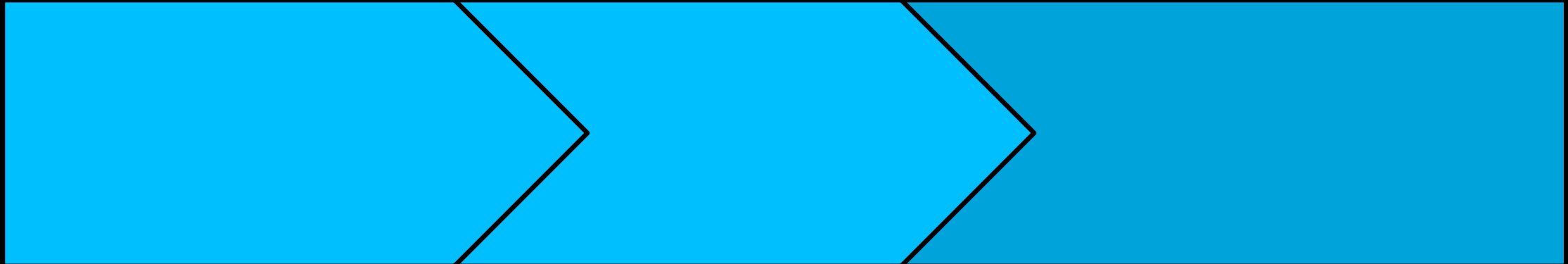
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- Indications that RBA implementations can be designed more privacy friendly

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- Indications that RBA implementations can be designed more privacy friendly



- IP address is still sensitive feature. Replacing with server-originated Round-Trip Time* possible?

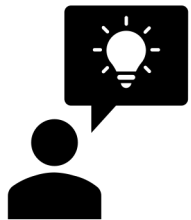
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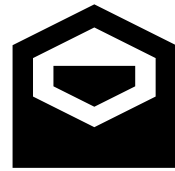


- Research Directions:
More/Other features, Login History Minimization

Thank you



riskbasedauthentication.org
das.h-brs.de



stephan.wiefling@h-brs.de



[@swiefling](https://twitter.com/swiefling)