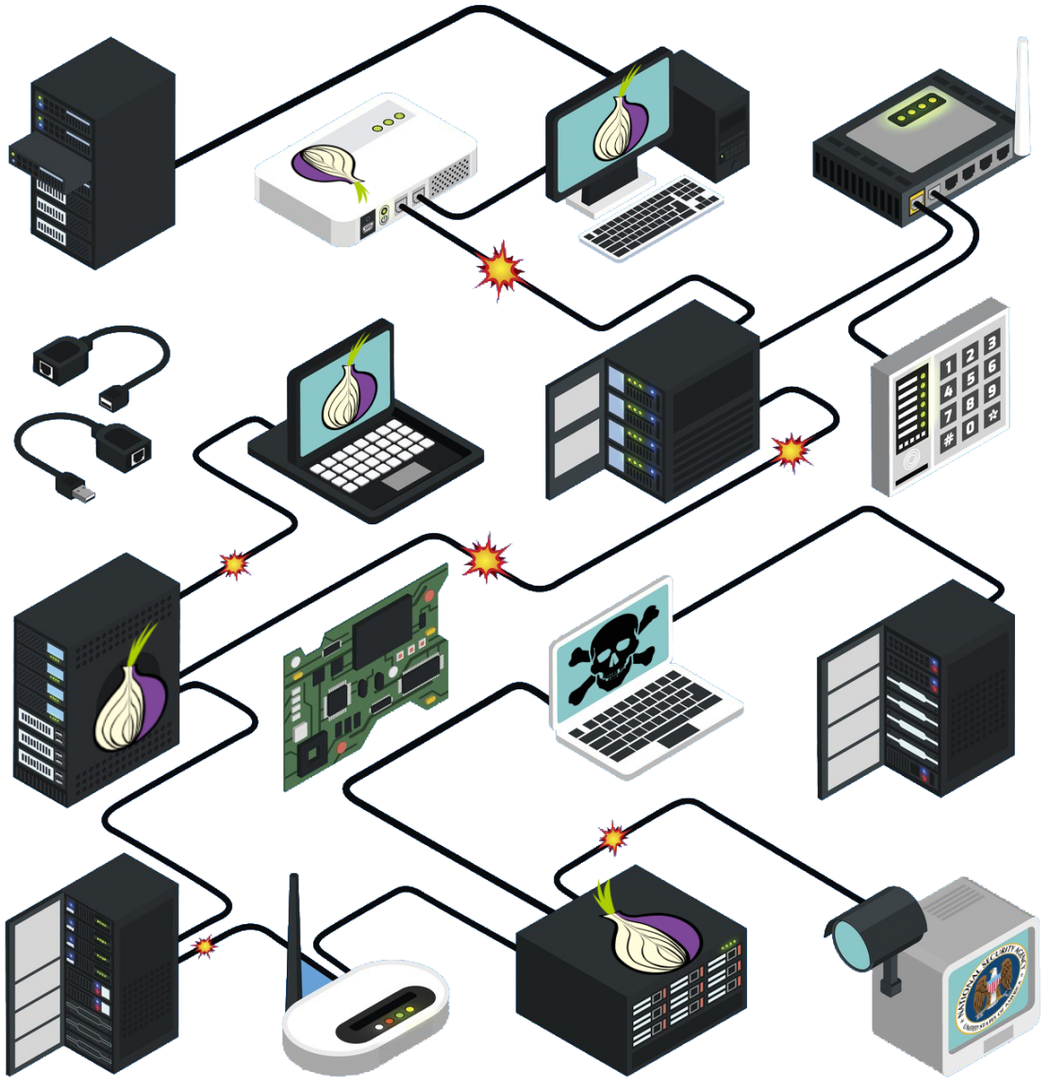
Technical introduction

The Tor Network



Sharing is Caring

Please copy, share, and remix!

grab a copy of the presentation:
github.com/francisco-core/tecnical-intro-to-tor/

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?

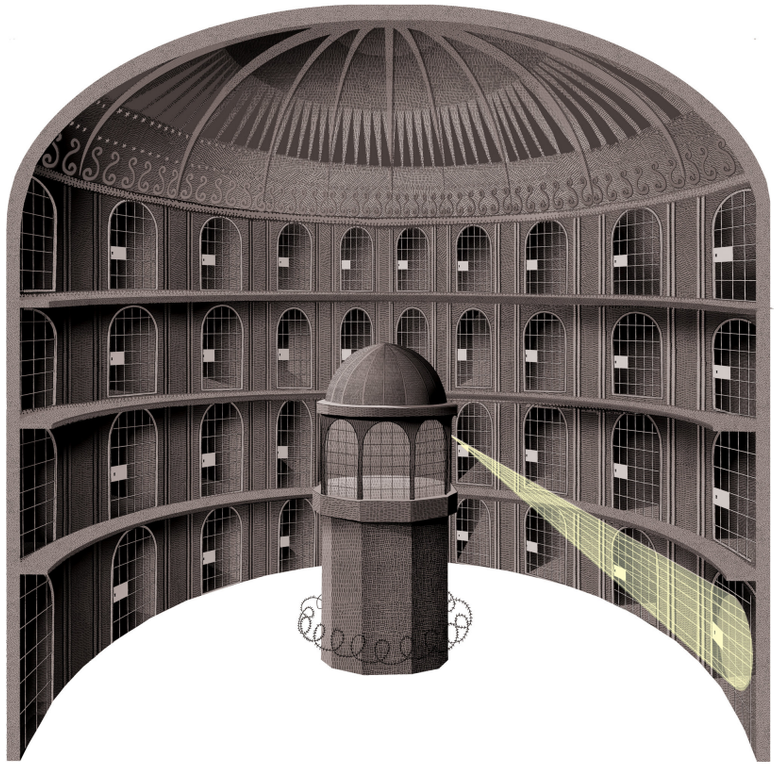
Privacy

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

But...

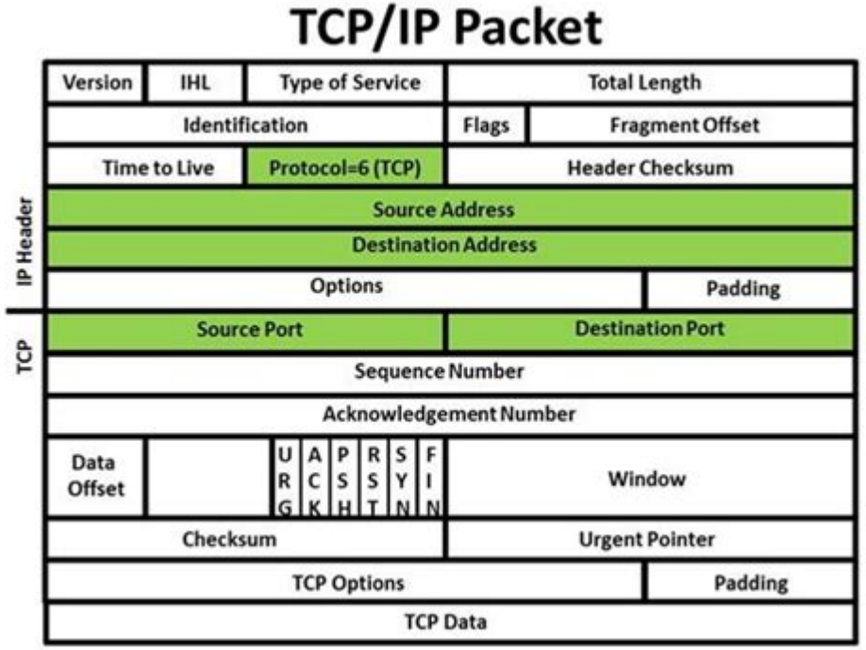
The Internet is NOT a private place

With no additional protection

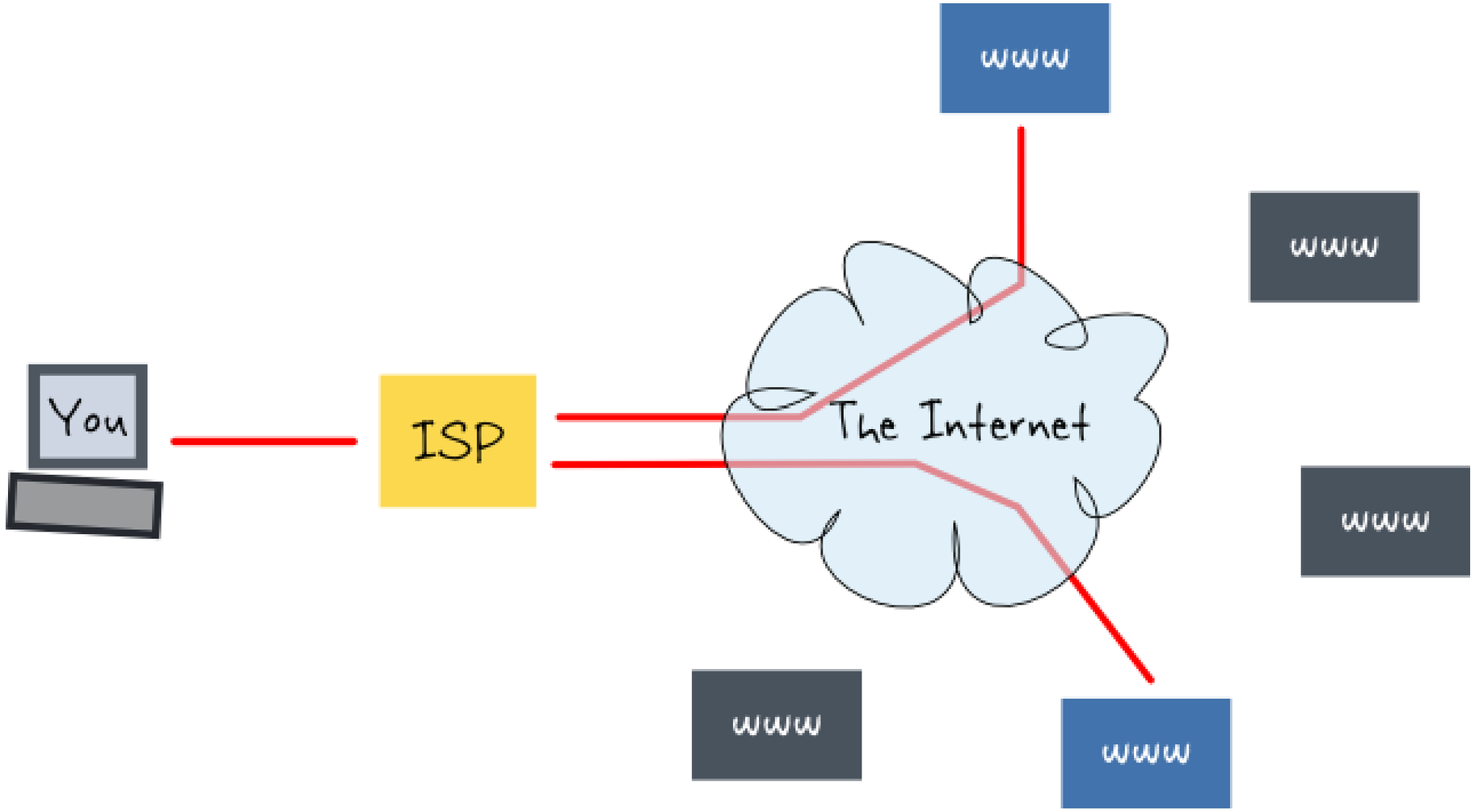
we are exposed

IP addresses are geolocated

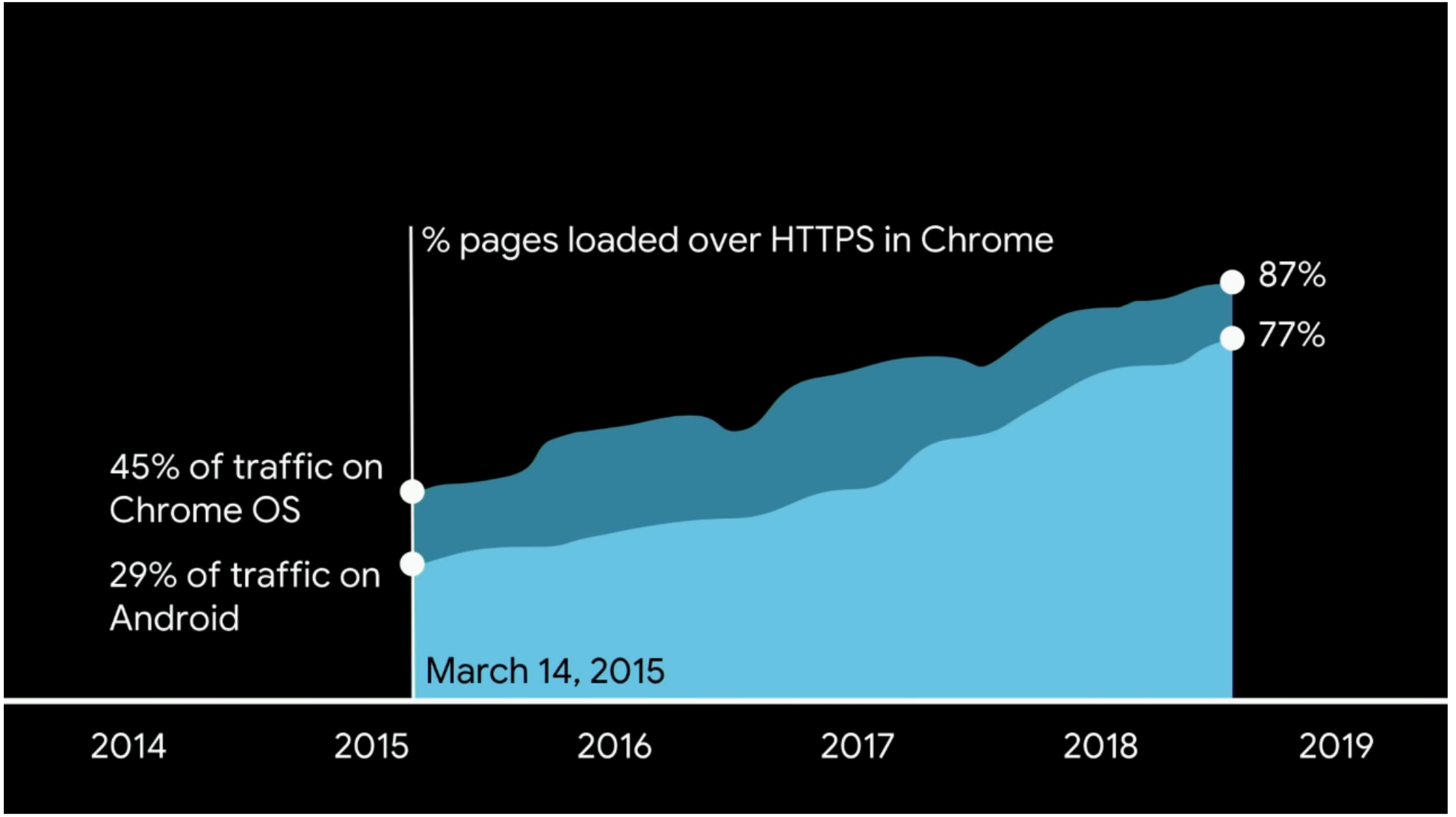
and sent allong with each message



ISPs know every website you visit / services you use

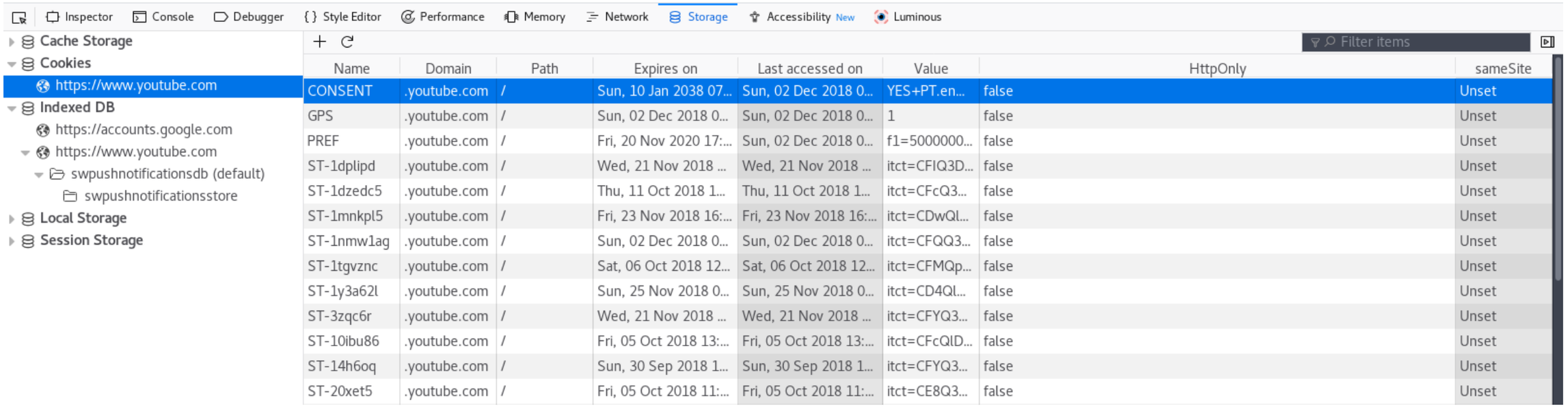


HTTPS wide deployment is very recent



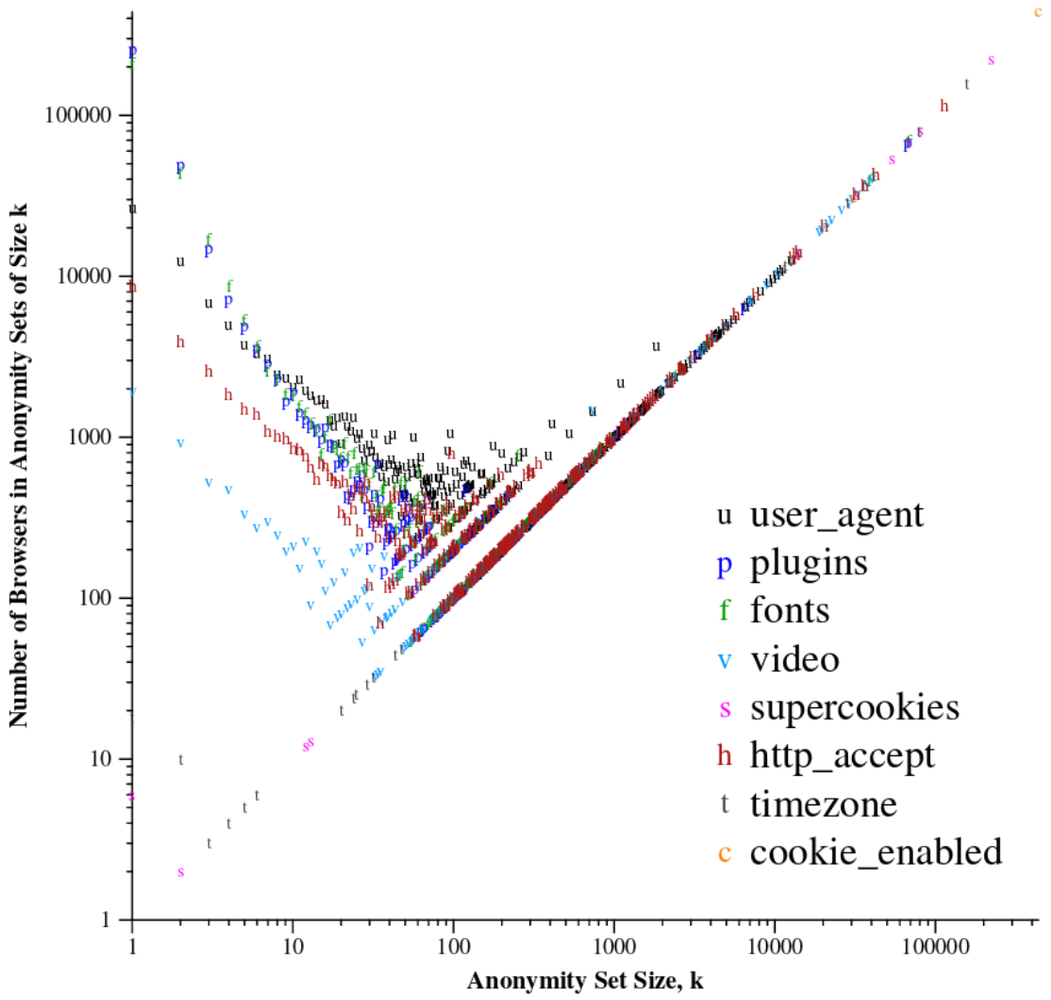
Cookies

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



Name	Domain	Path	Expires on	Last accessed on	Value	HttpOnly	sameSite
CONSENT	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 10 Jan 2038 07...	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 0...	YES+PT.en...	false	Unset
GPS	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 0...	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 0...	1	false	Unset
PREF	.youtube.com	/	Fri, 20 Nov 2020 17:...	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 0...	f1=5000000...	false	Unset
ST-1dplipd	.youtube.com	/	Wed, 21 Nov 2018 ...	Wed, 21 Nov 2018 ...	itct=CFIQ3D...	false	Unset
ST-1dzedc5	.youtube.com	/	Thu, 11 Oct 2018 1...	Thu, 11 Oct 2018 1...	itct=CFcQ3...	false	Unset
ST-1mnkpl5	.youtube.com	/	Fri, 23 Nov 2018 16:...	Fri, 23 Nov 2018 16:...	itct=CDwQl...	false	Unset
ST-1nmw1ag	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 0...	Sun, 02 Dec 2018 0...	itct=CFQQ3...	false	Unset
ST-1tgvznc	.youtube.com	/	Sat, 06 Oct 2018 12...	Sat, 06 Oct 2018 12...	itct=CFMQp...	false	Unset
ST-1y3a62l	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 25 Nov 2018 0...	Sun, 25 Nov 2018 0...	itct=CD4Ql...	false	Unset
ST-3zqc6r	.youtube.com	/	Wed, 21 Nov 2018 ...	Wed, 21 Nov 2018 ...	itct=CFYQ3...	false	Unset
ST-10ibu86	.youtube.com	/	Fri, 05 Oct 2018 13:...	Fri, 05 Oct 2018 13:...	itct=CFcQlD...	false	Unset
ST-14h6oq	.youtube.com	/	Sun, 30 Sep 2018 1...	Sun, 30 Sep 2018 1...	itct=CFYQ3...	false	Unset
ST-20xet5	.youtube.com	/	Fri, 05 Oct 2018 11:...	Fri, 05 Oct 2018 11:...	itct=CE8Q3...	false	Unset

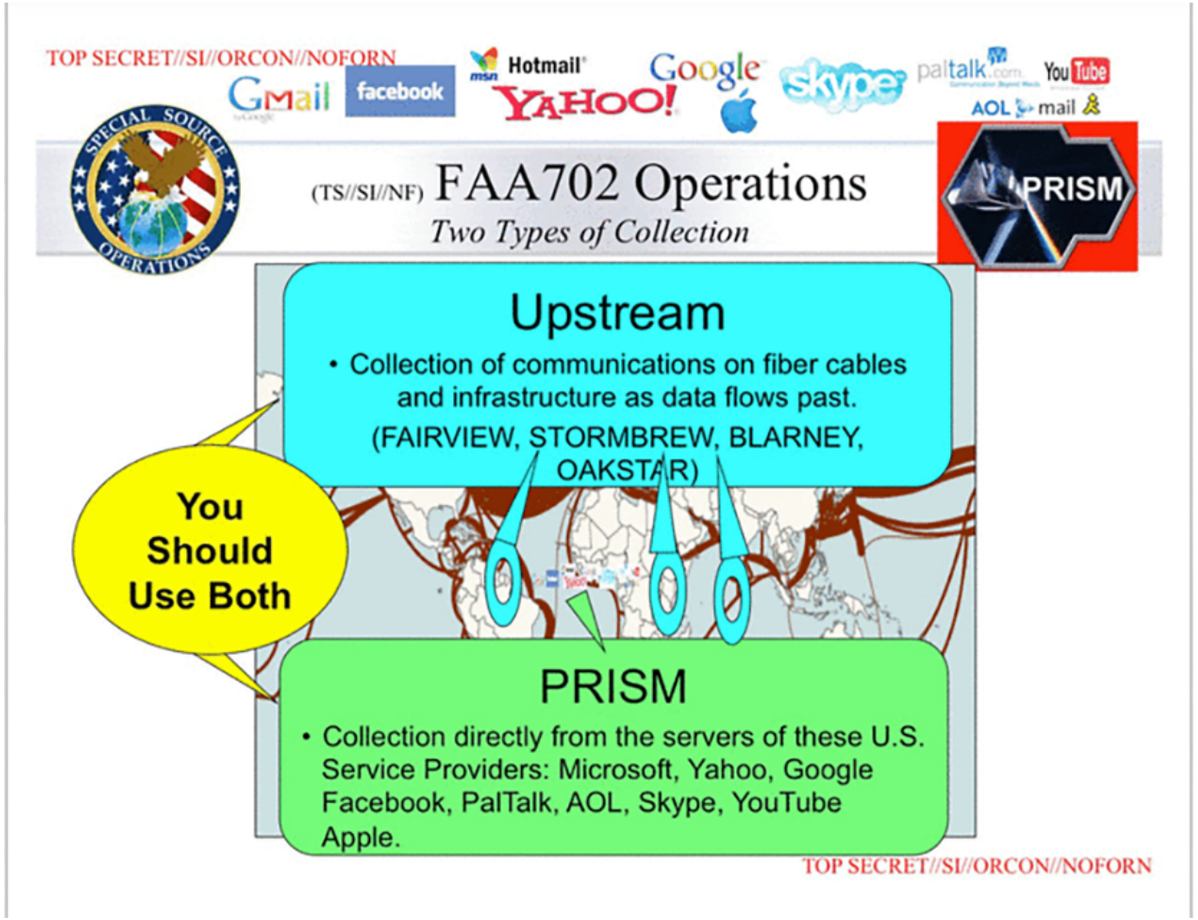
Browser Fingerprinting

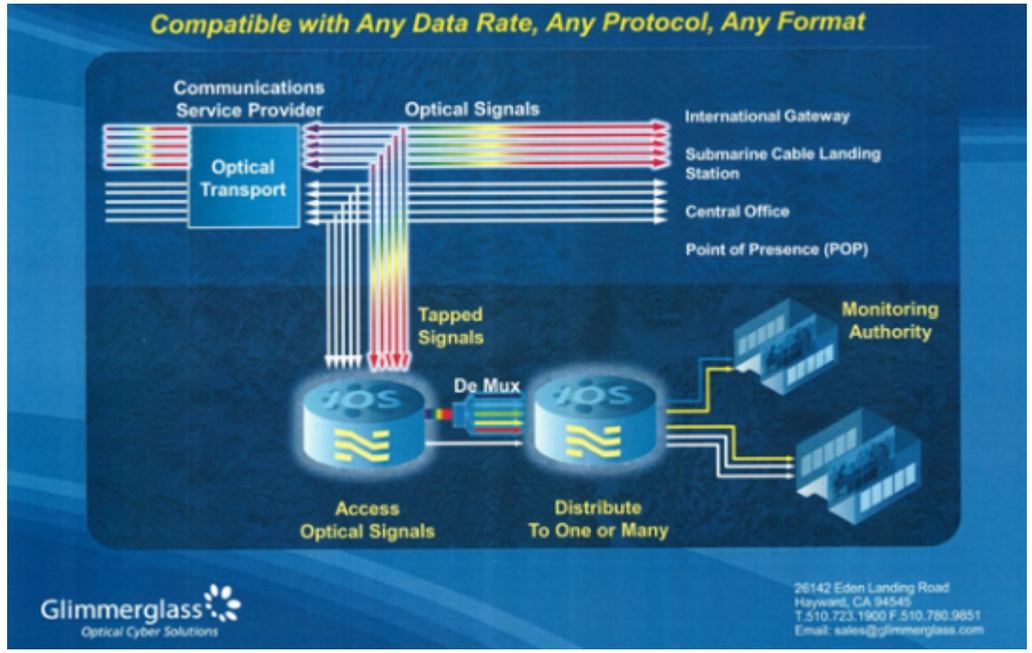


Browser Characteristic	bits of identifying information	one in *x* browsers have this value	value
Limited supercookie test	0.35	1.27	DOM localStorage: Yes, DOM sessionStorage: Yes, IE userData: No
Hash of canvas fingerprint	8.67	406.34	fcef380b67fa405ef000dd07bfc0c479
Screen Size and Color Depth	2.52	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

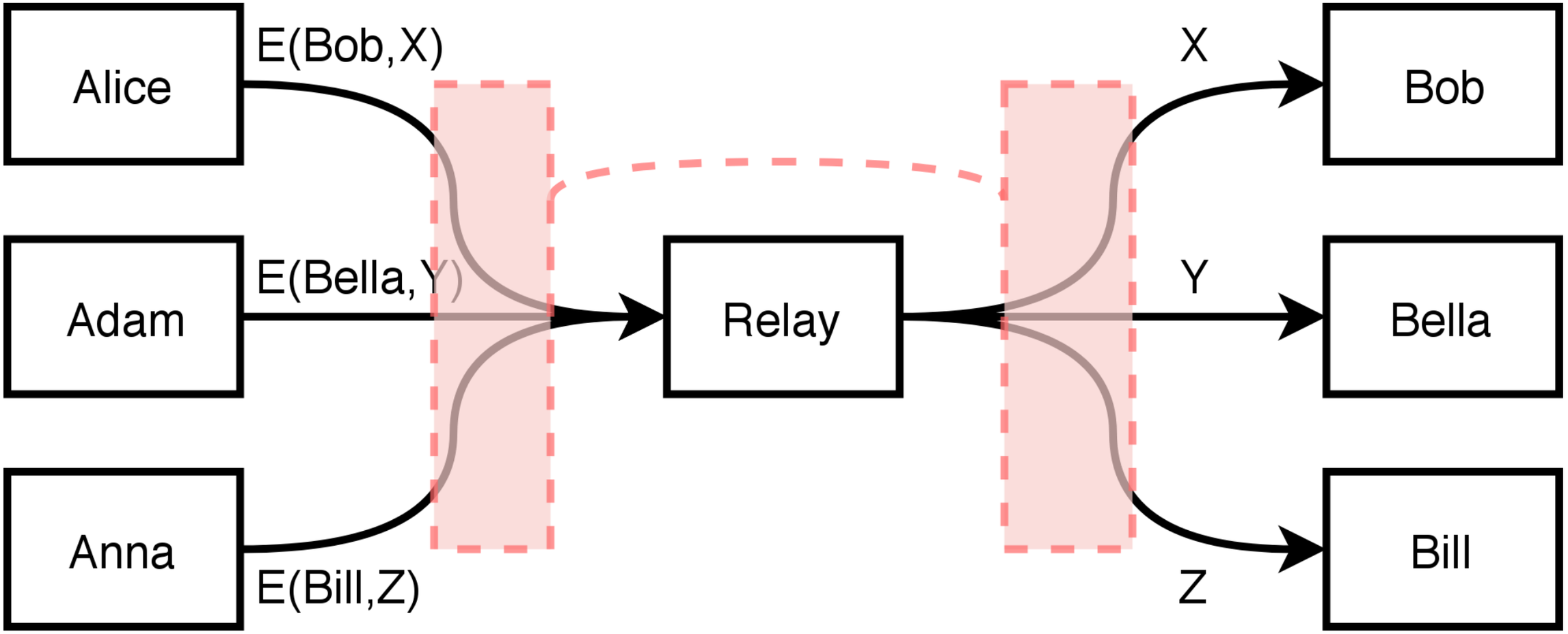
yeah, Computer Science has wonders like these

Approaches to Privacy and Anonymity

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

Single Proxy / VPN

Single Proxy / VPN



Major Flaws

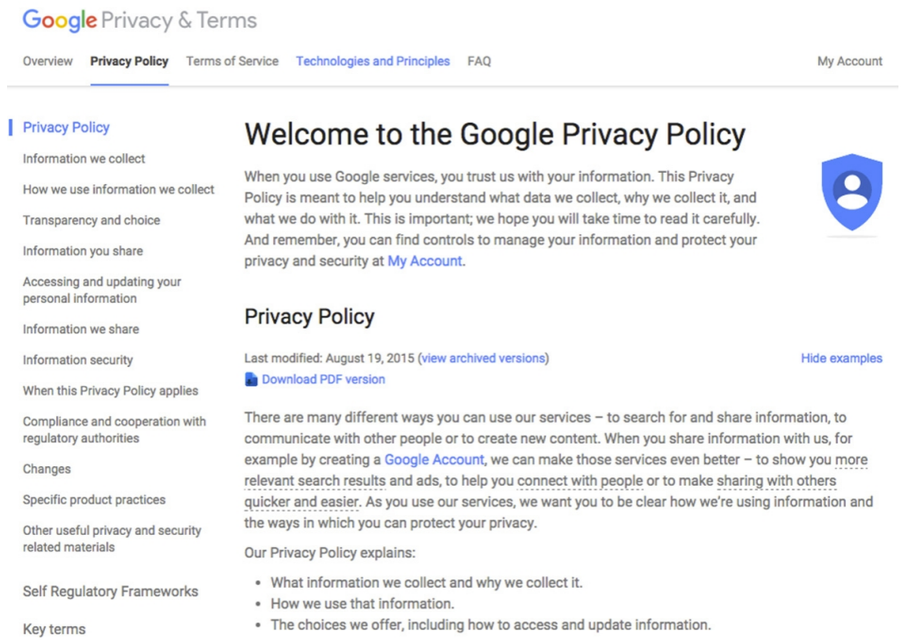
1. Trust

2. Liability for the Provider

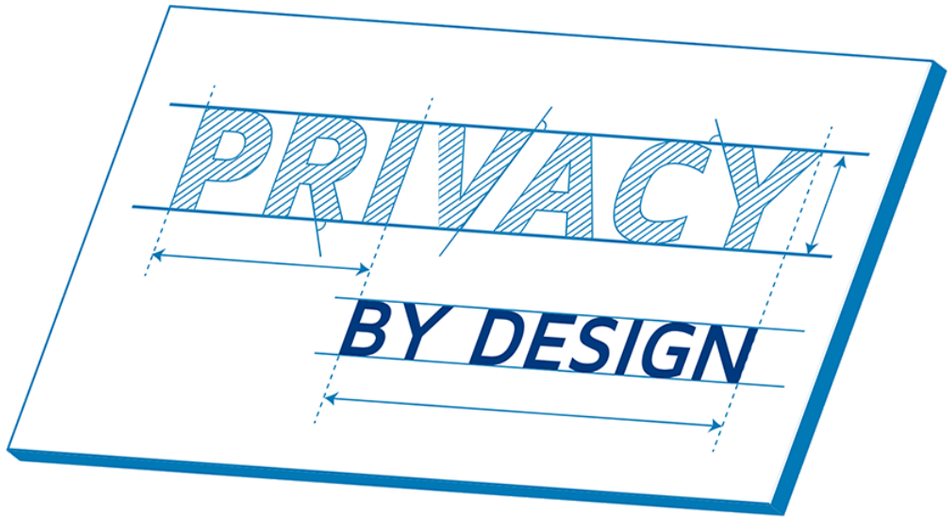
3. Traffic Correlation

1. We have to Trust

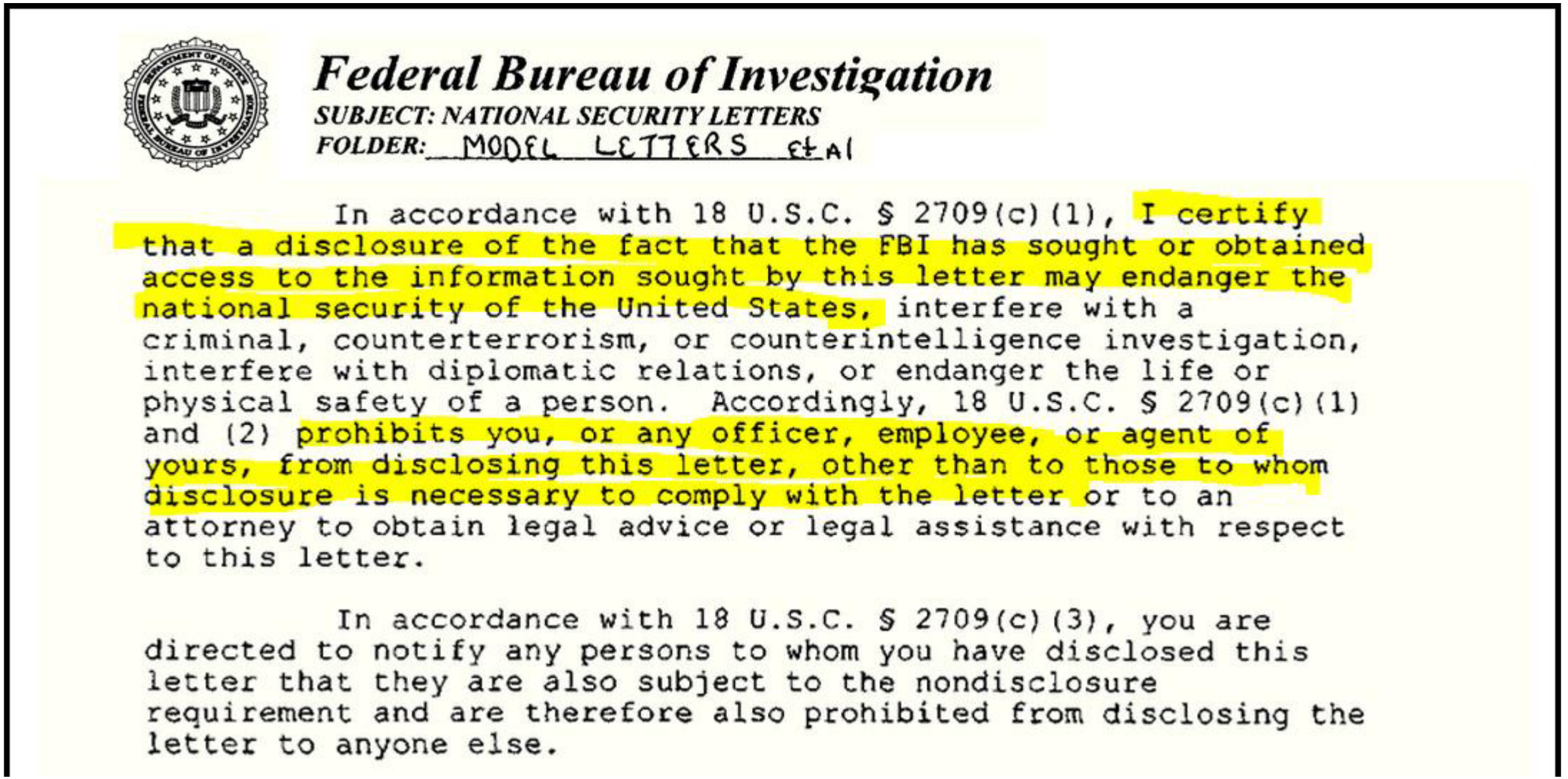
privacy **by Policy**



privacy **by Design**



2. Liability for the Provider

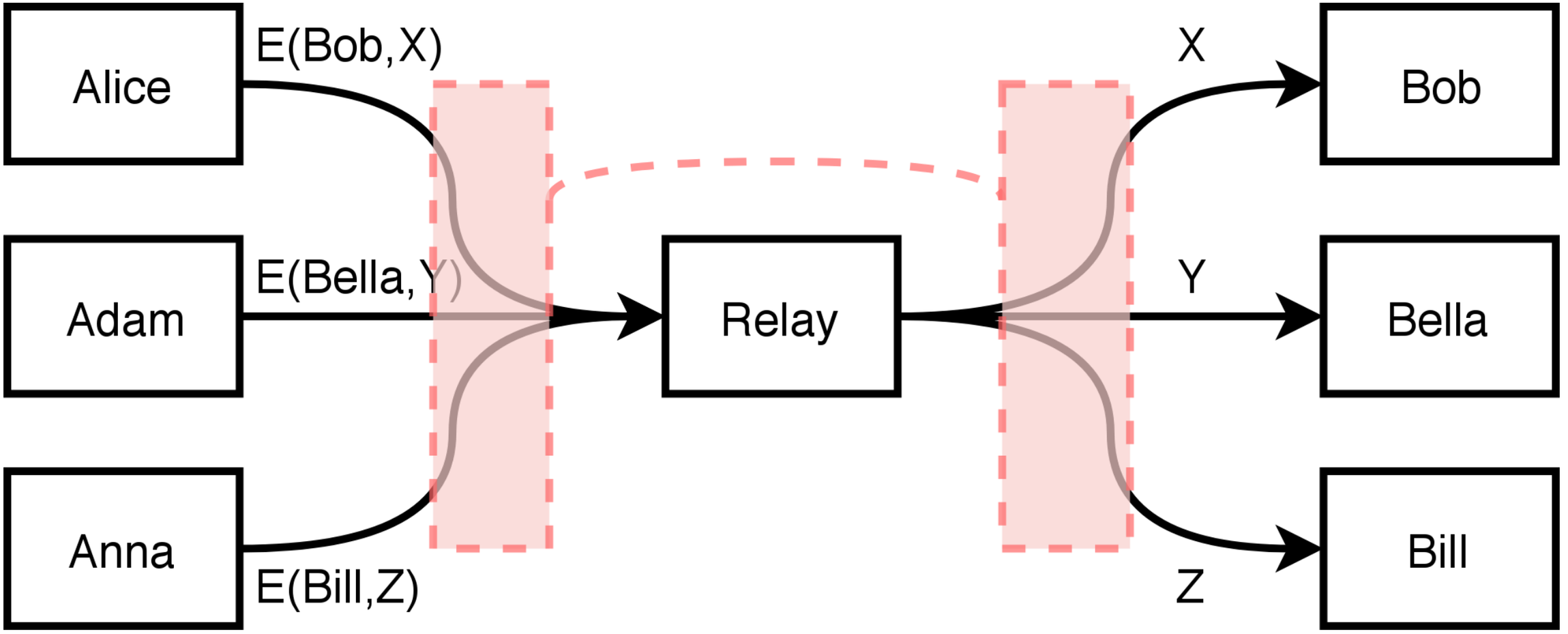


Federal Bureau of Investigation
SUBJECT: NATIONAL SECURITY LETTERS
FOLDER: MODEL LETTERS ETAL

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 indentify users

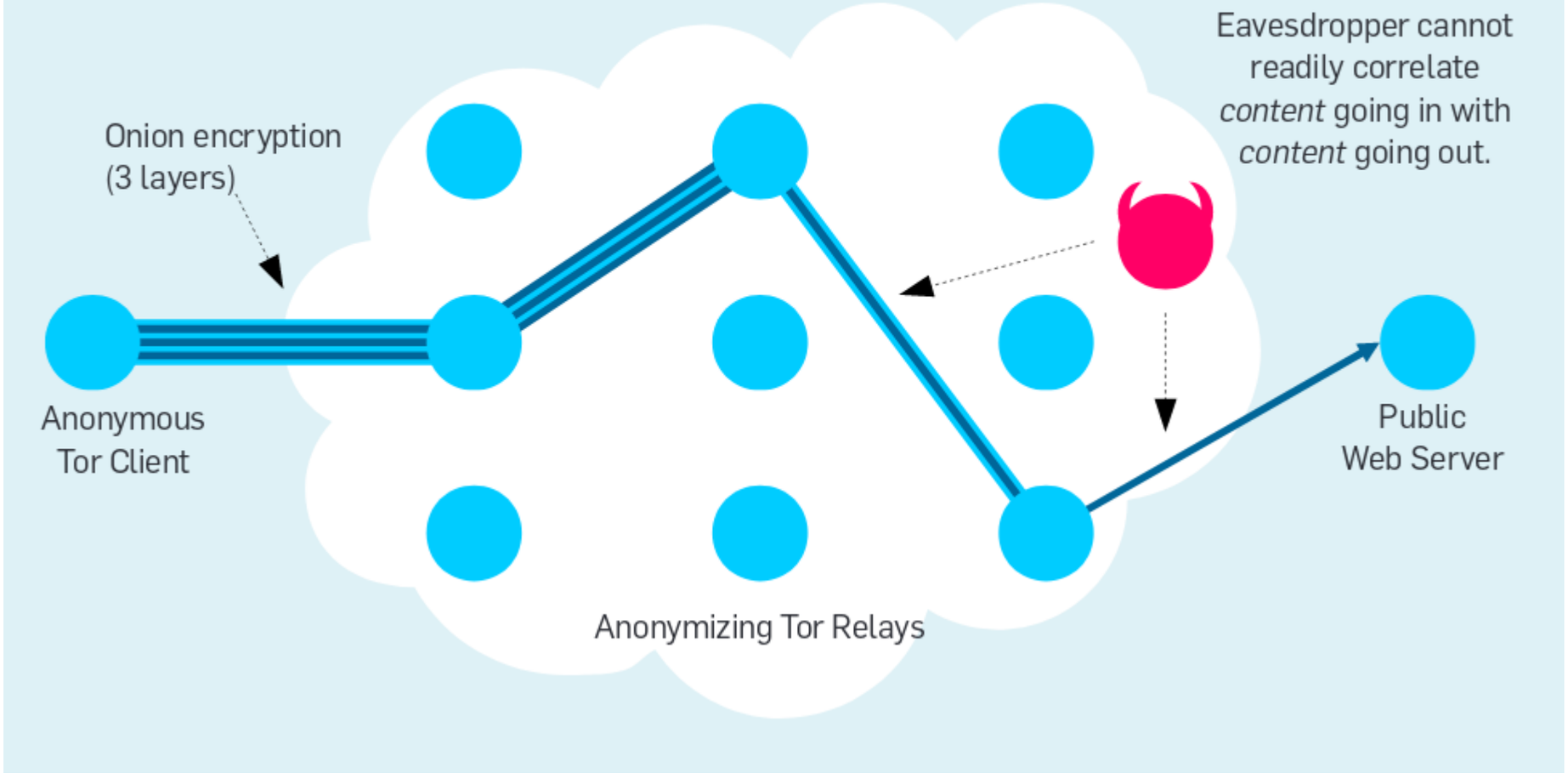
Anonymity is Hard

Onion Routing

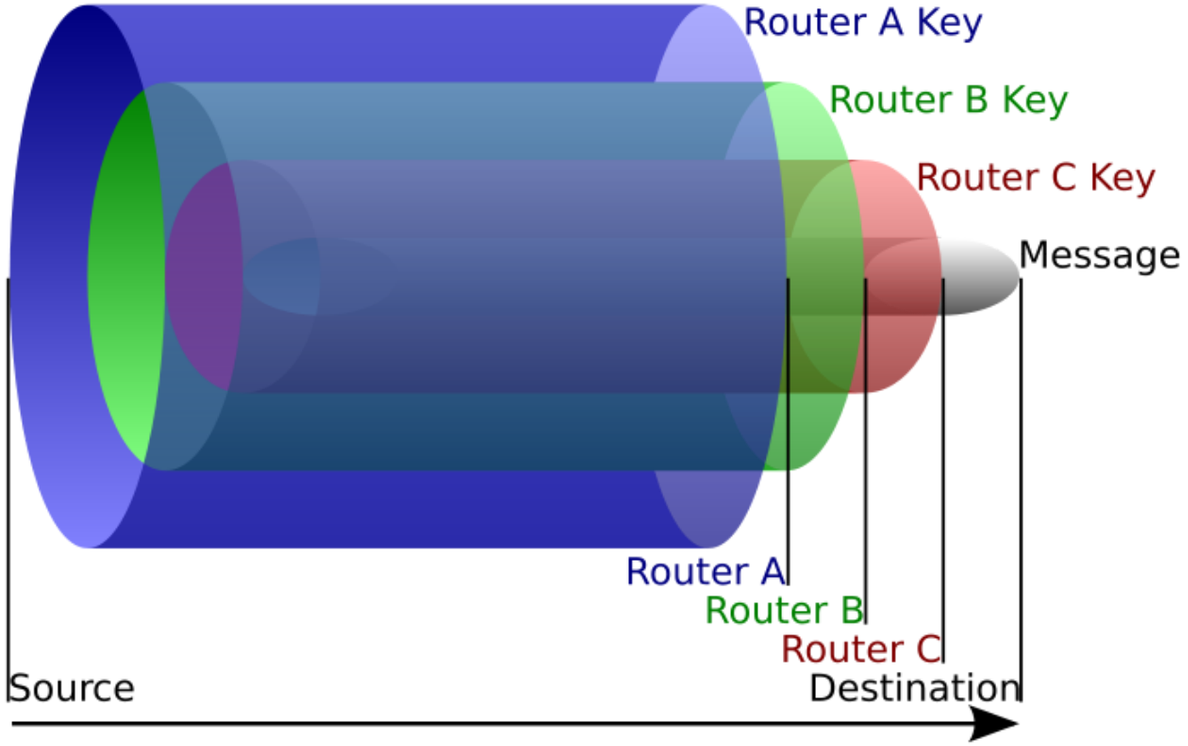
- use a chain of relays
- public key encryption for each of them

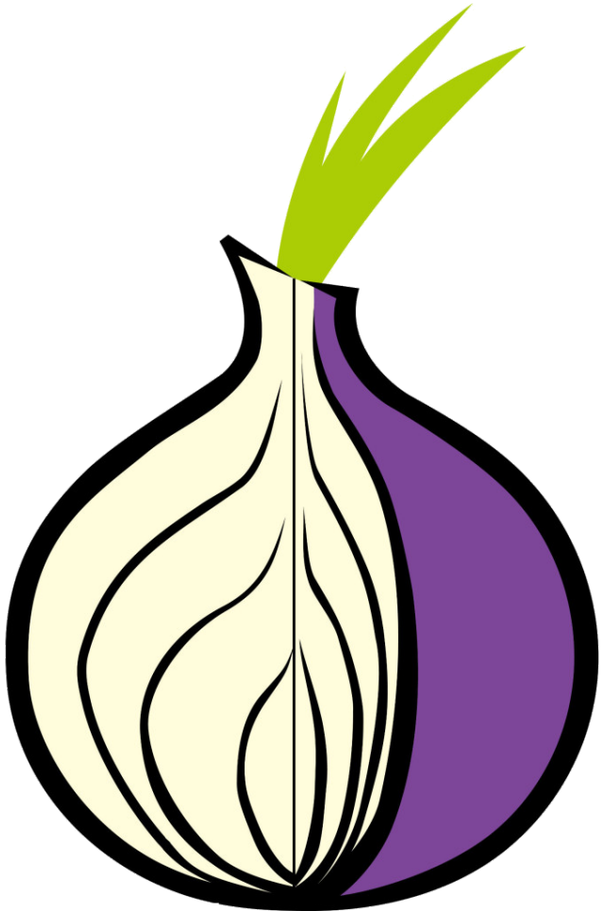
Onion Routing

Figure 1. Onion routing.



I don't see any onions there...

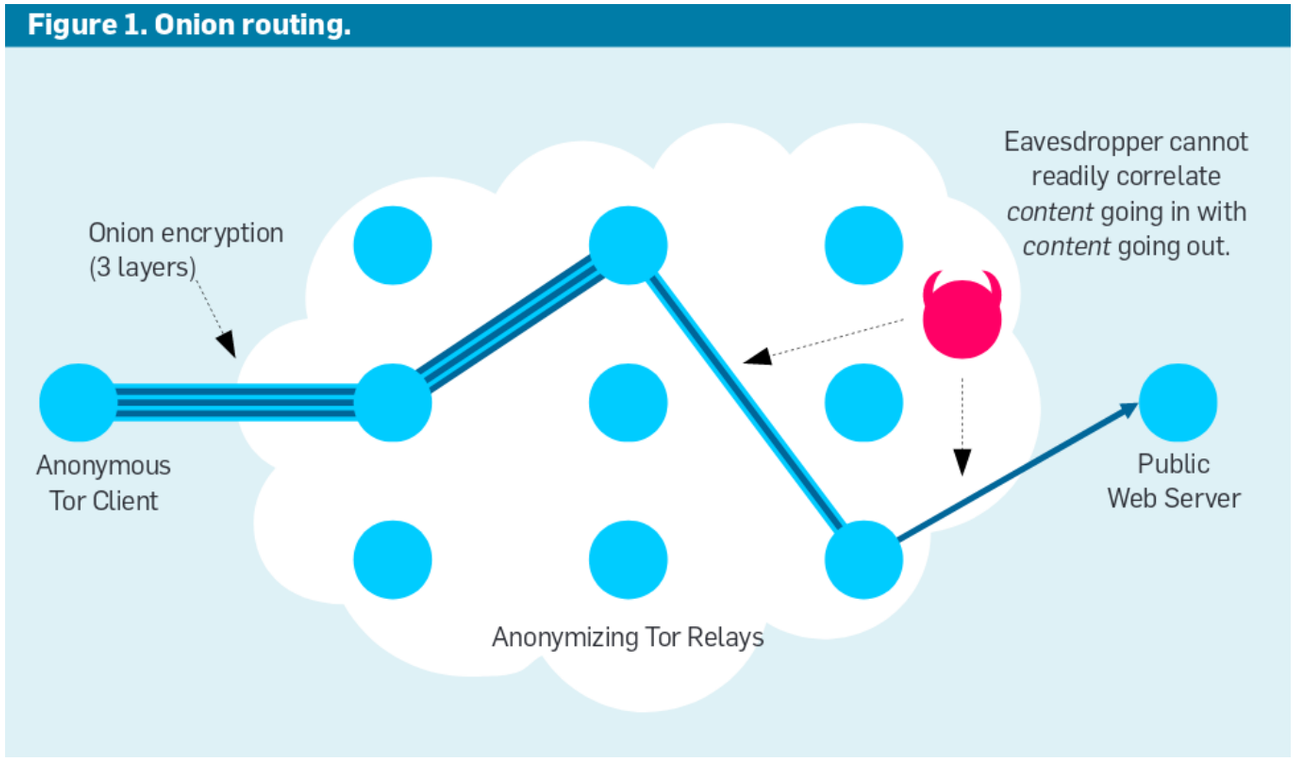


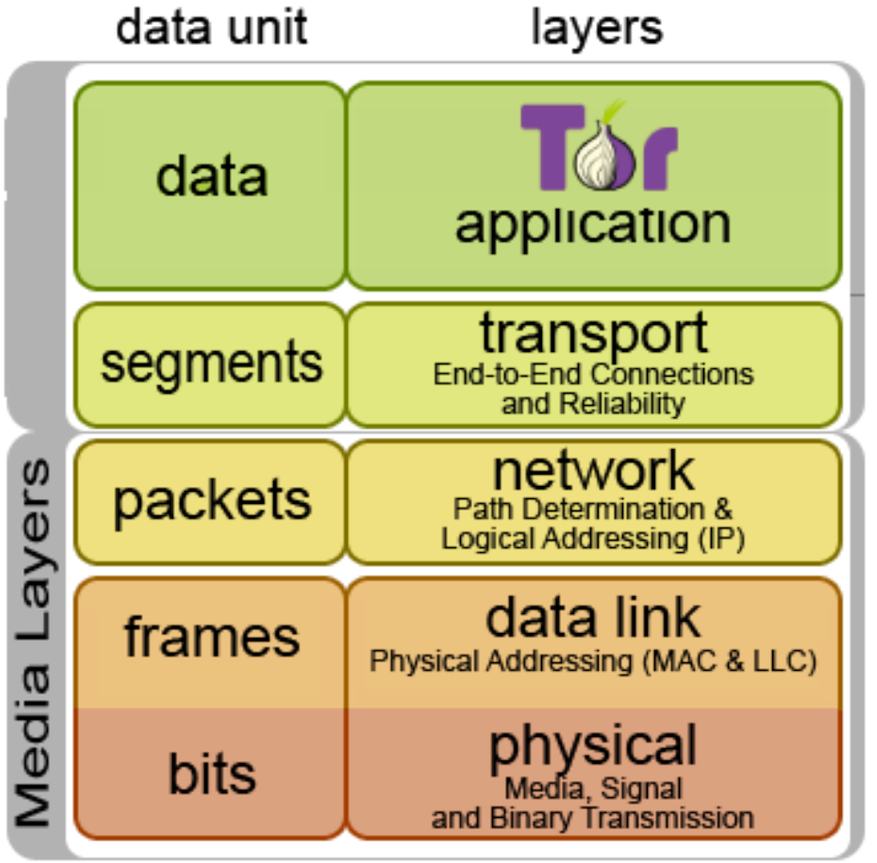


The *onion pattern* also comes up when we think of internet packets and their layers

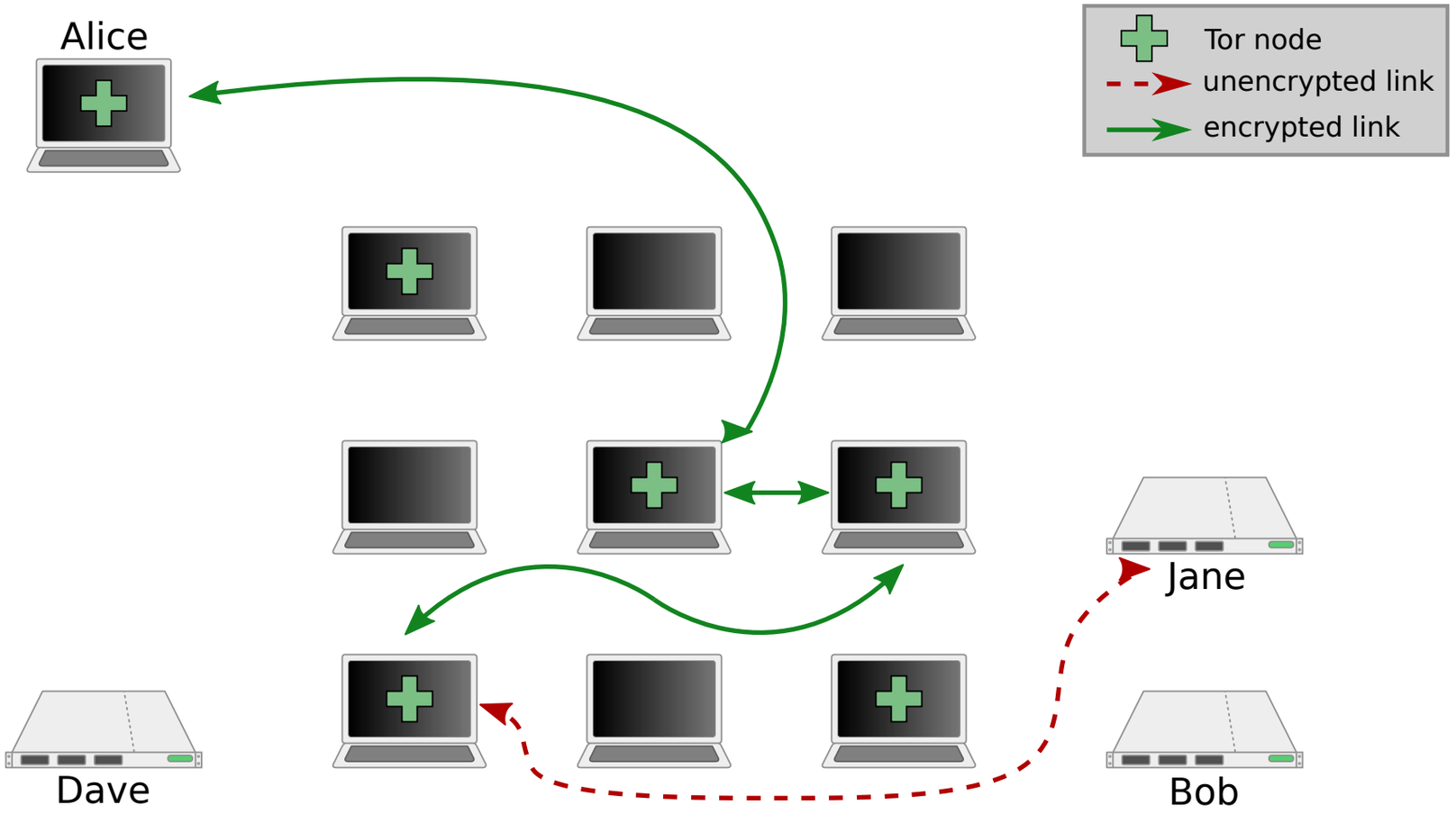
Tor implements Onion Routing as an overlay network

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



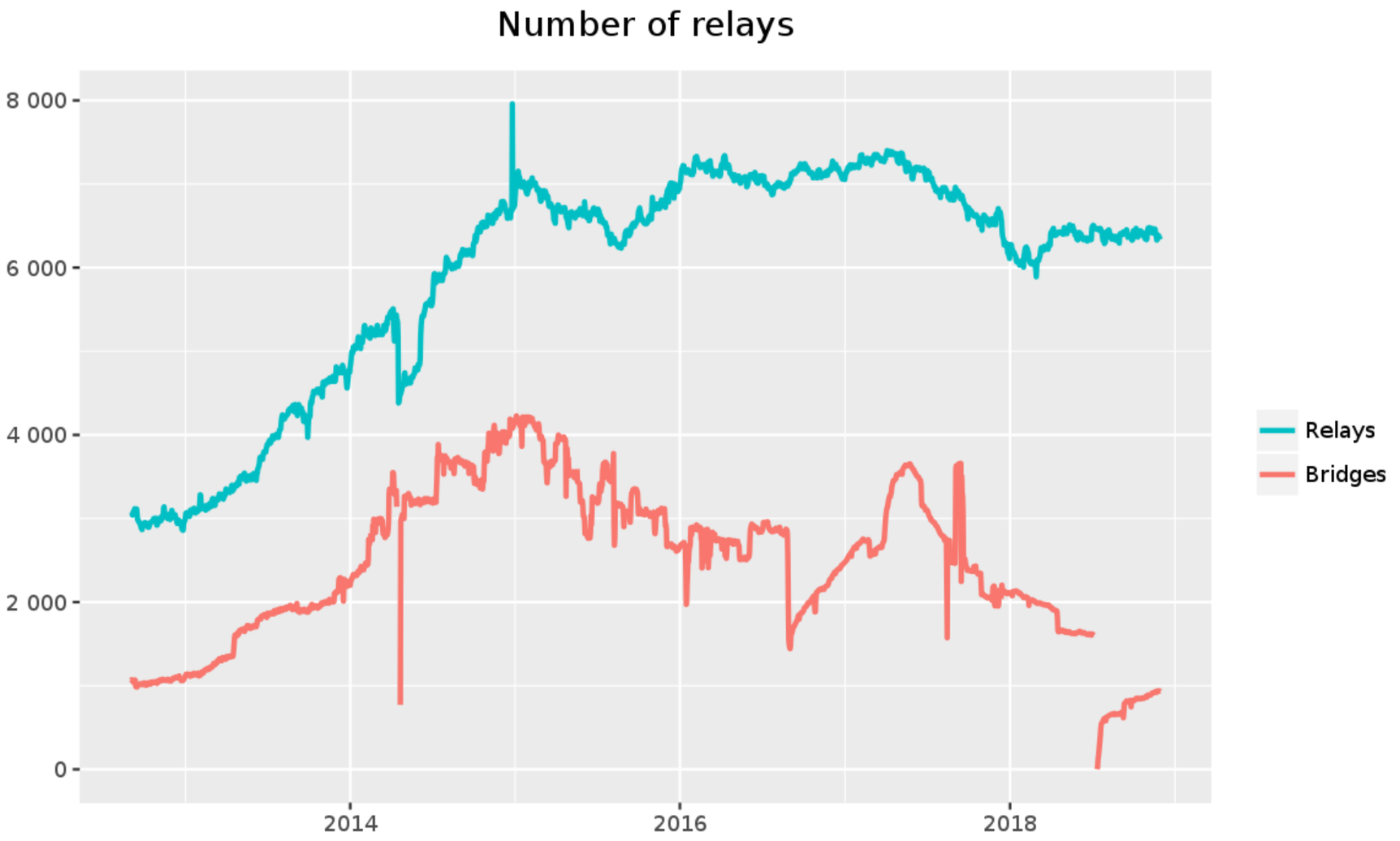


Onion Circuit



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

Nodes are ran by Volunteers all around the World



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 nework and some uses 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 trough 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

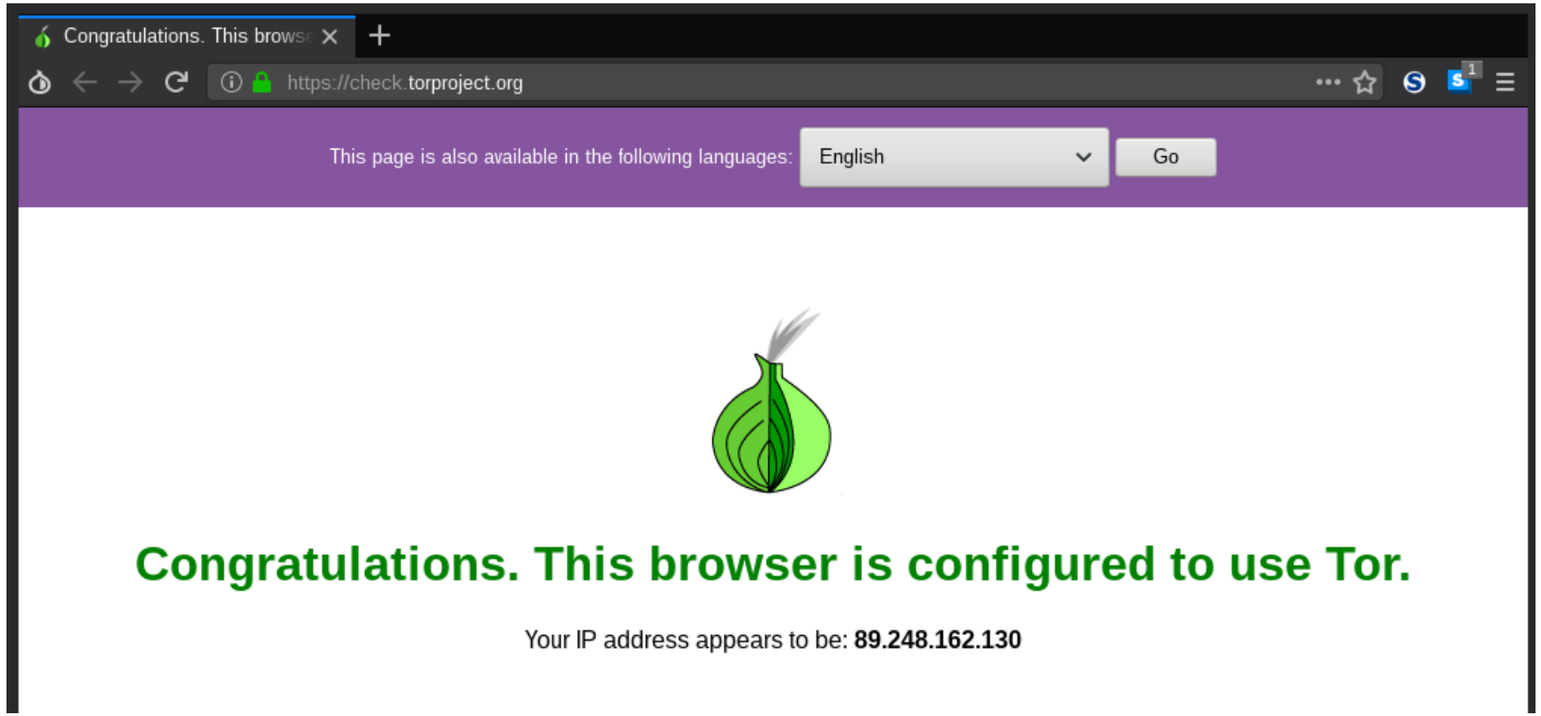
This means that

Tor alone is not enough

Tor Browser

A browser developed by the Tor Project that:

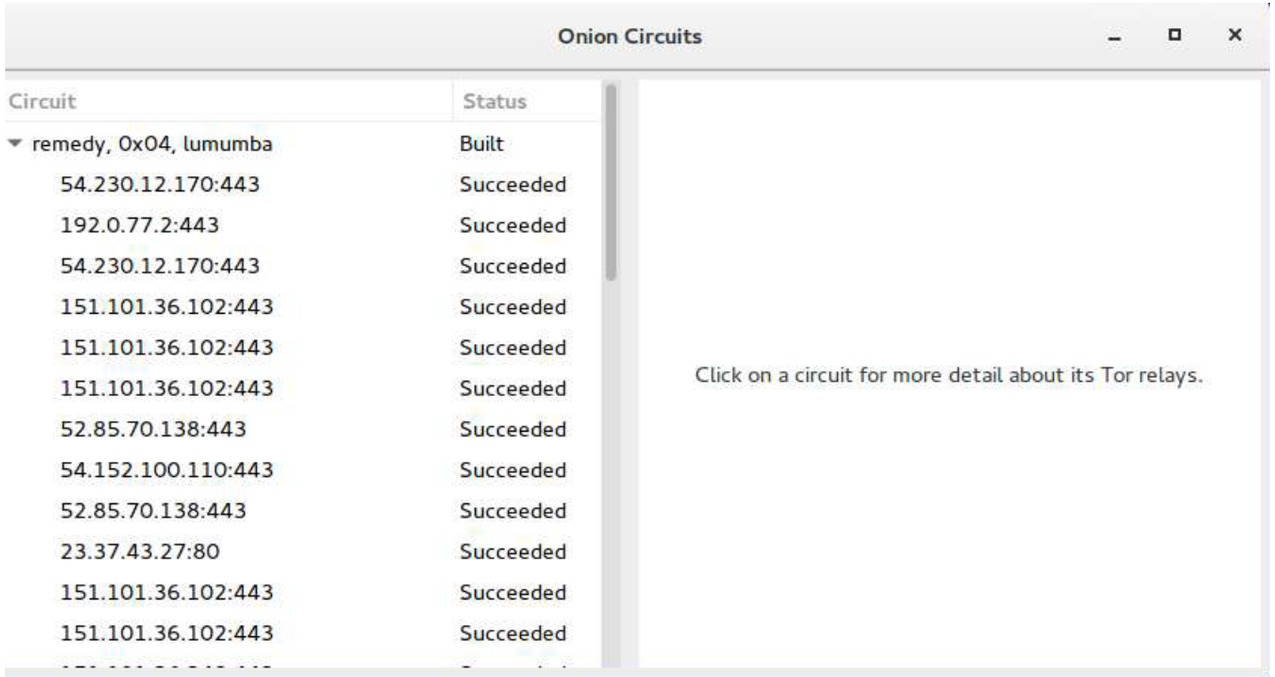
- sends traffic through the Tor network
- Implements additional measures to prevent the user to unwittingly giving away her/his identity

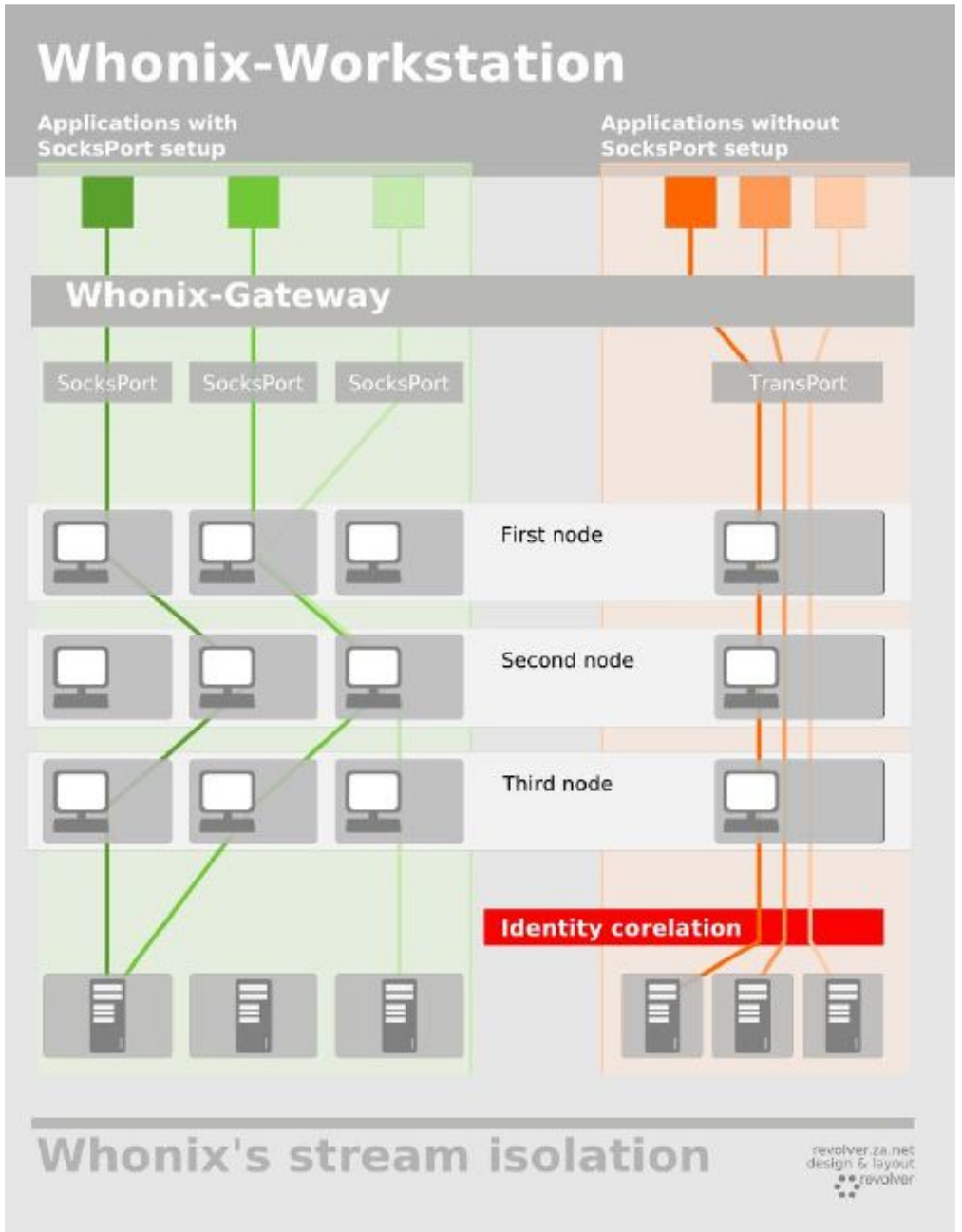


Stream Isolation

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.



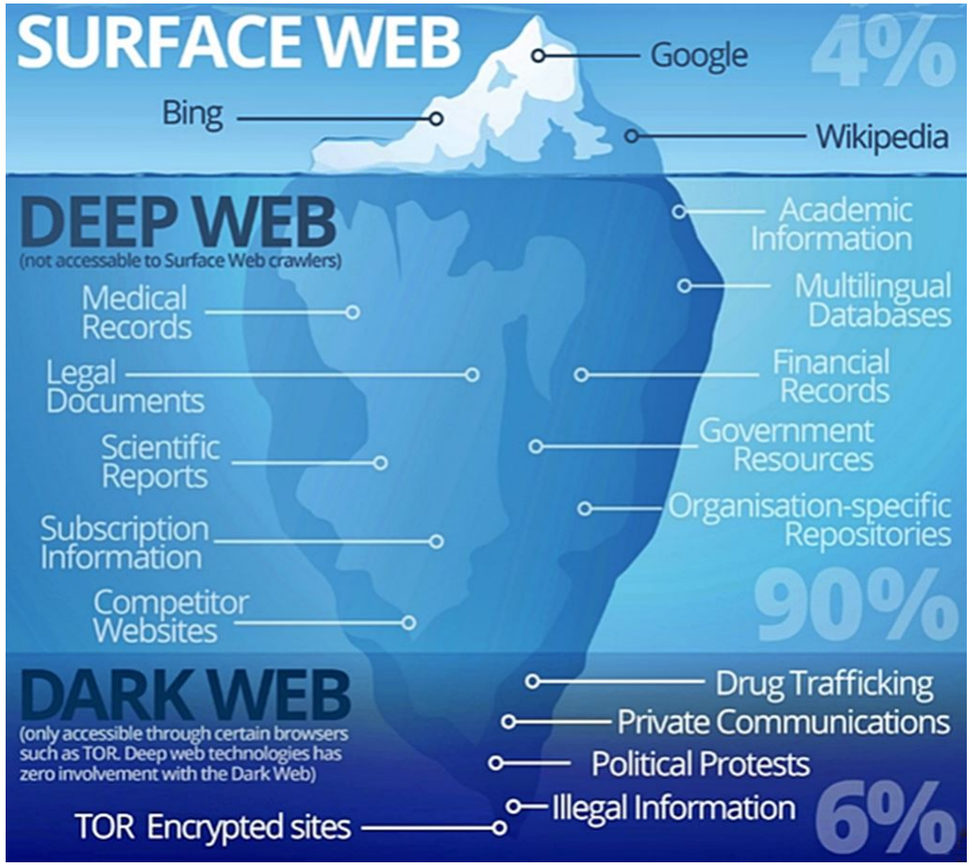


Onion Services

> "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://sik5nlgfc5qylnnsr57qrbm64zbdx6t4lreyhpon3ychmxmiem7tioad.onion/

Self Authentication

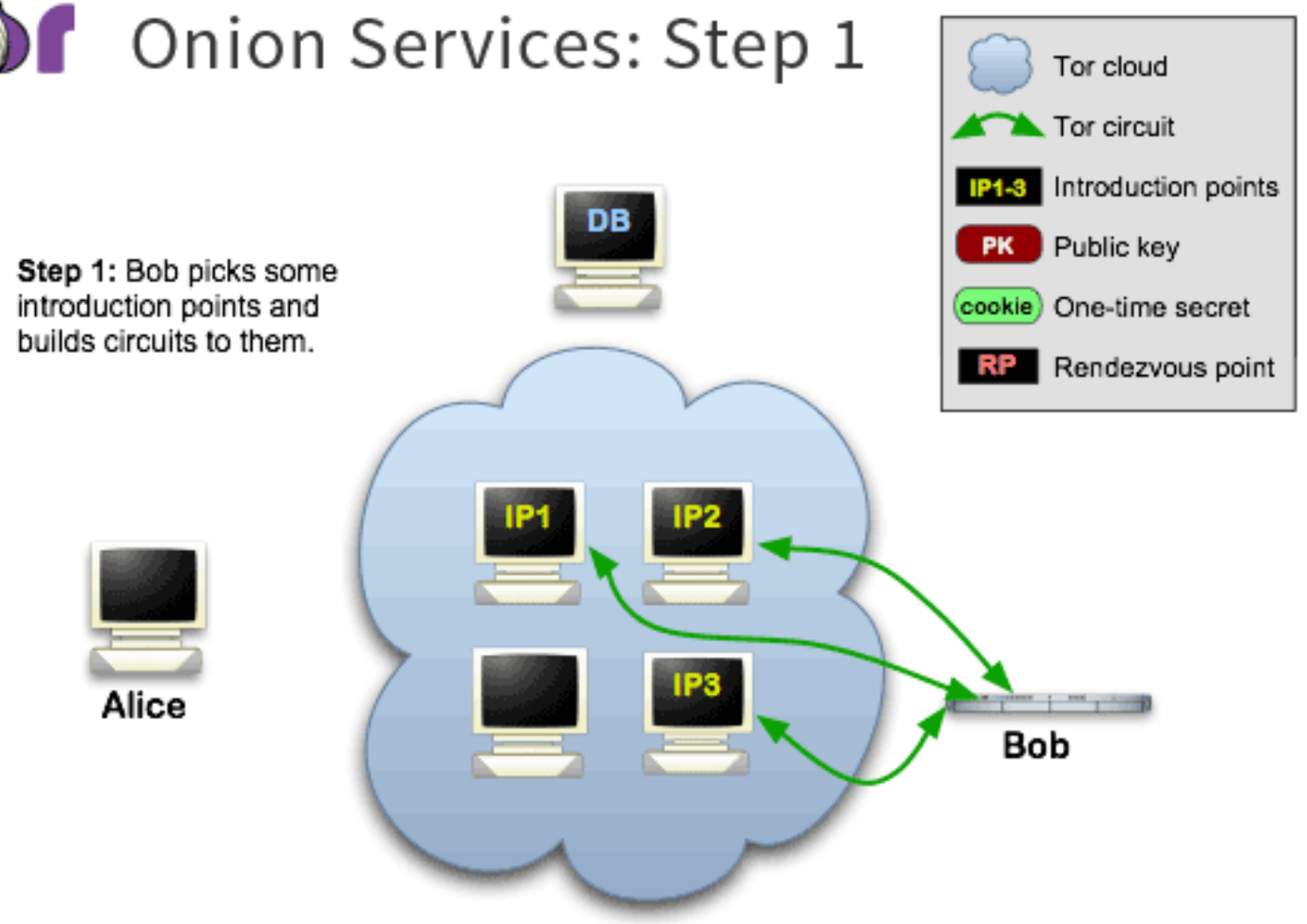
No need for Certificate Authorites

The URL is the publick key

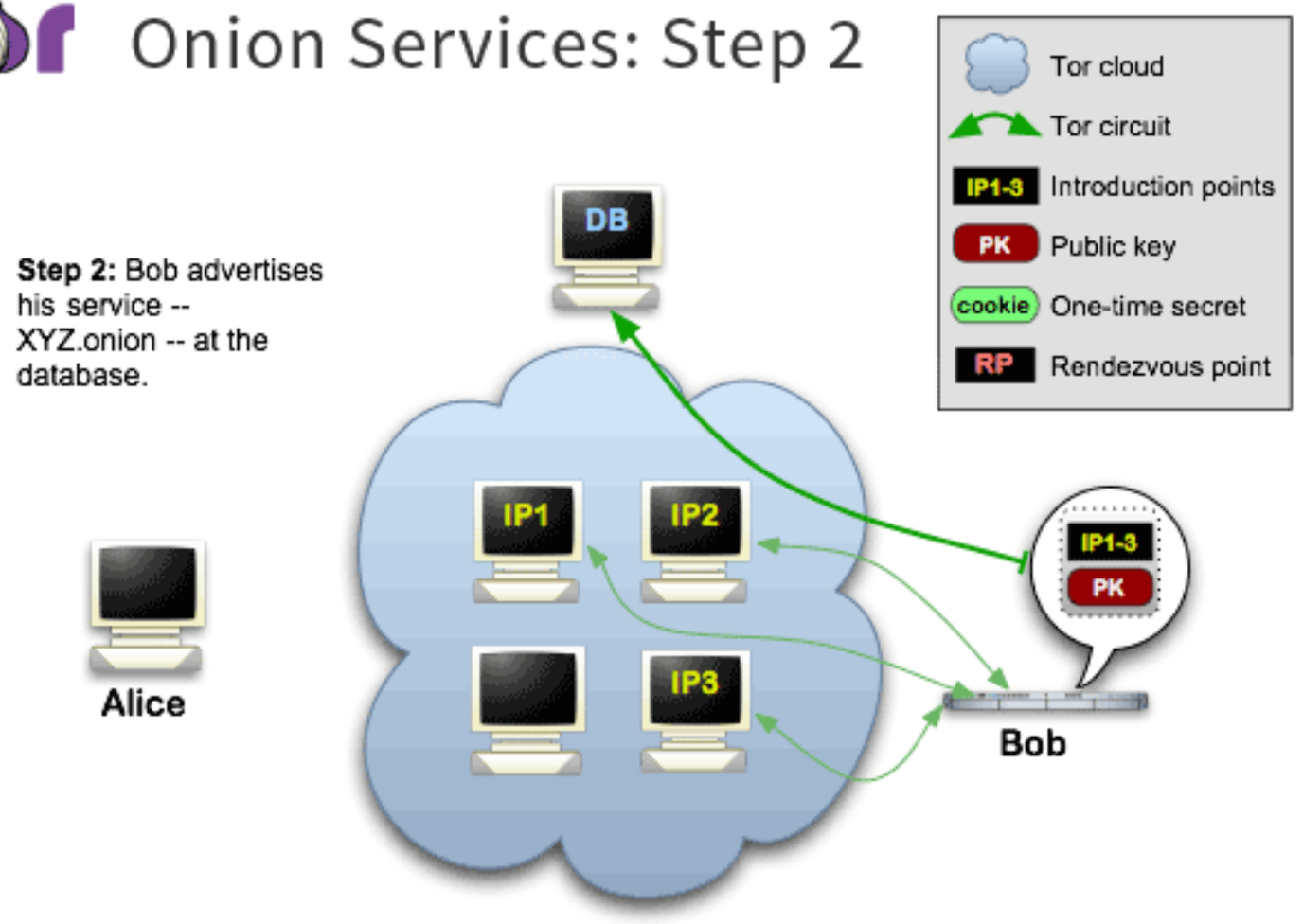
correct URL = correct website

http://sik5nlgfc5qylnnsr57qrbm64zbdx6t4lreyhpon3ychmxmiem7tioad.onion/

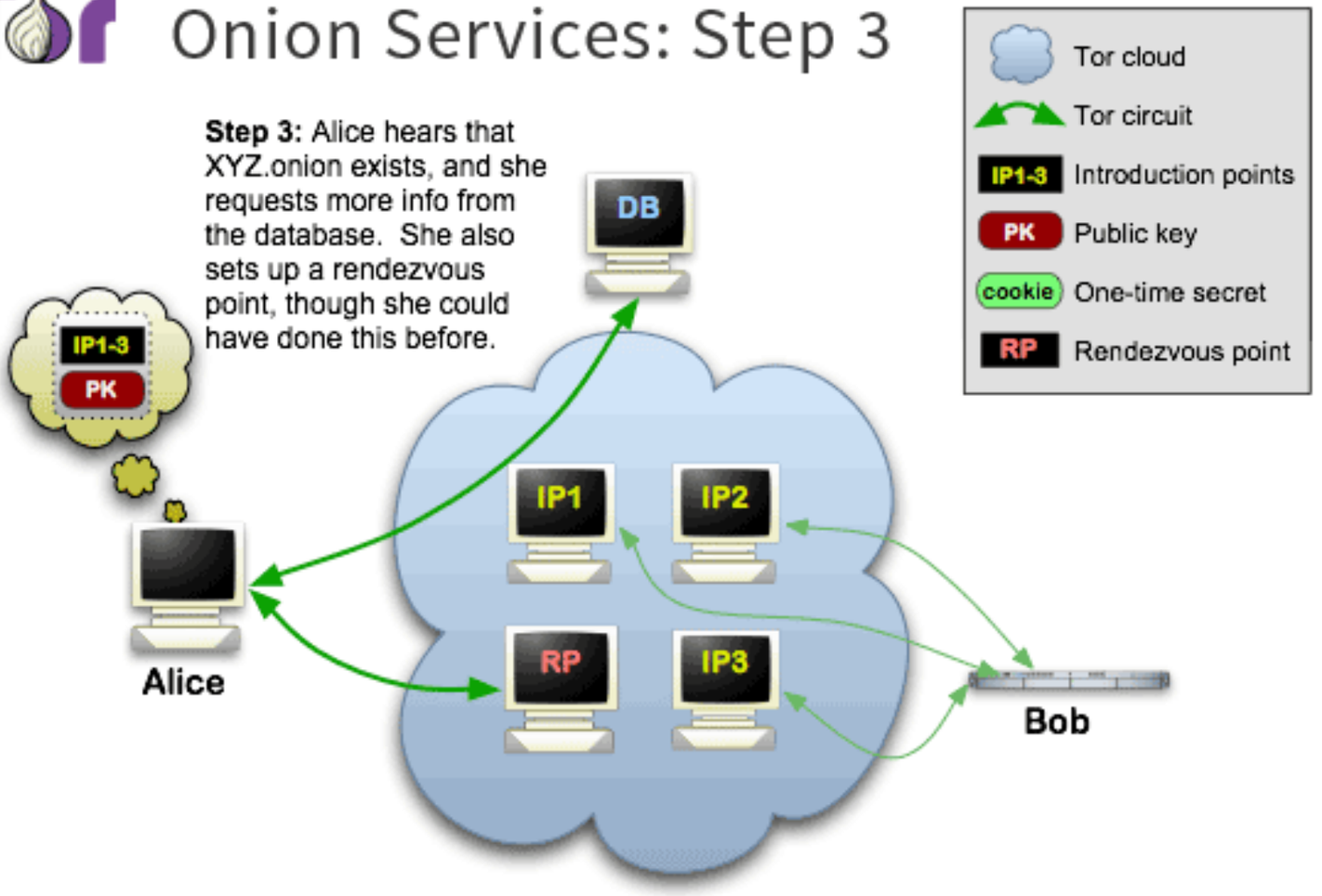
Onion Services: Step 1



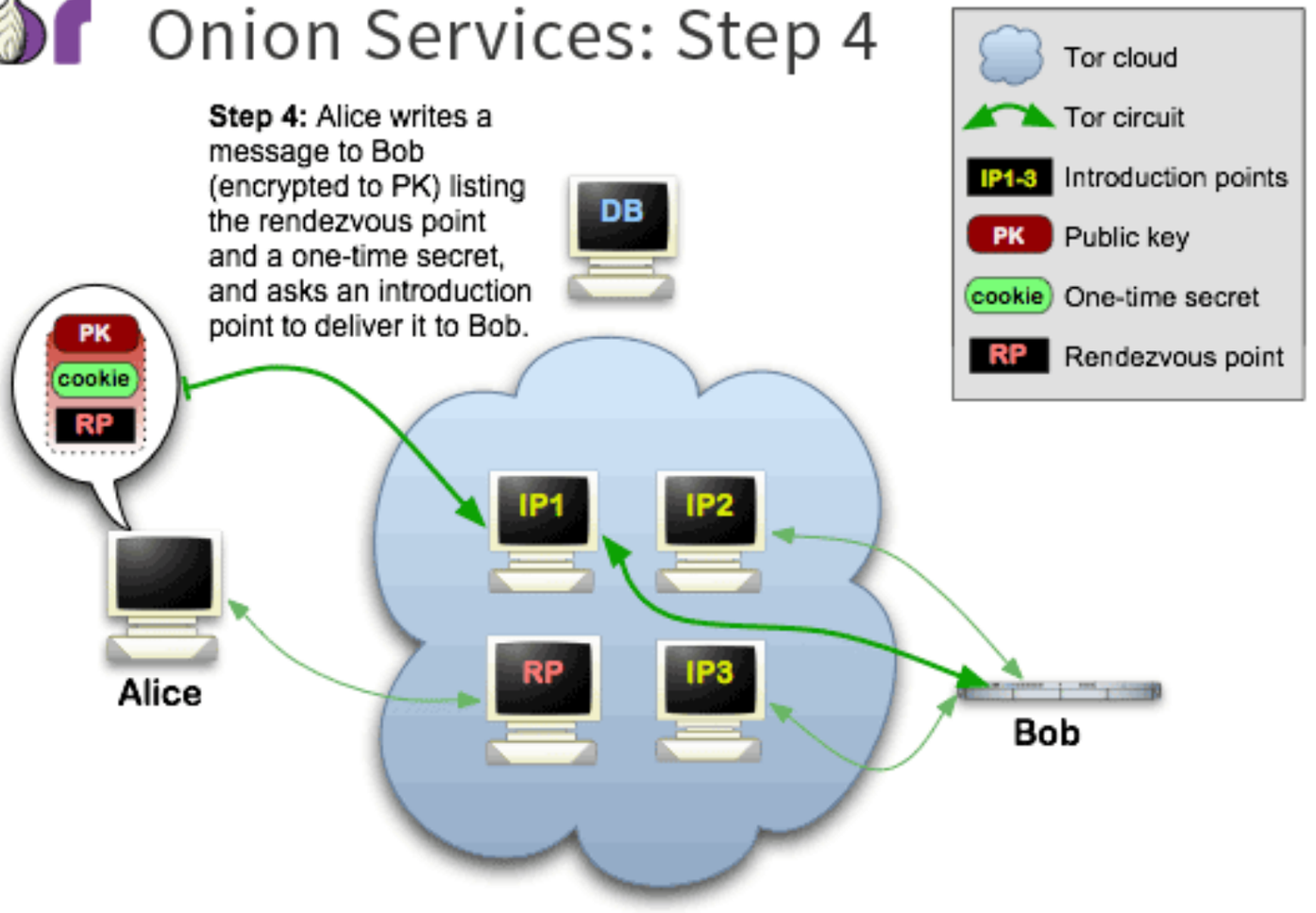
Onion Services: Step 2



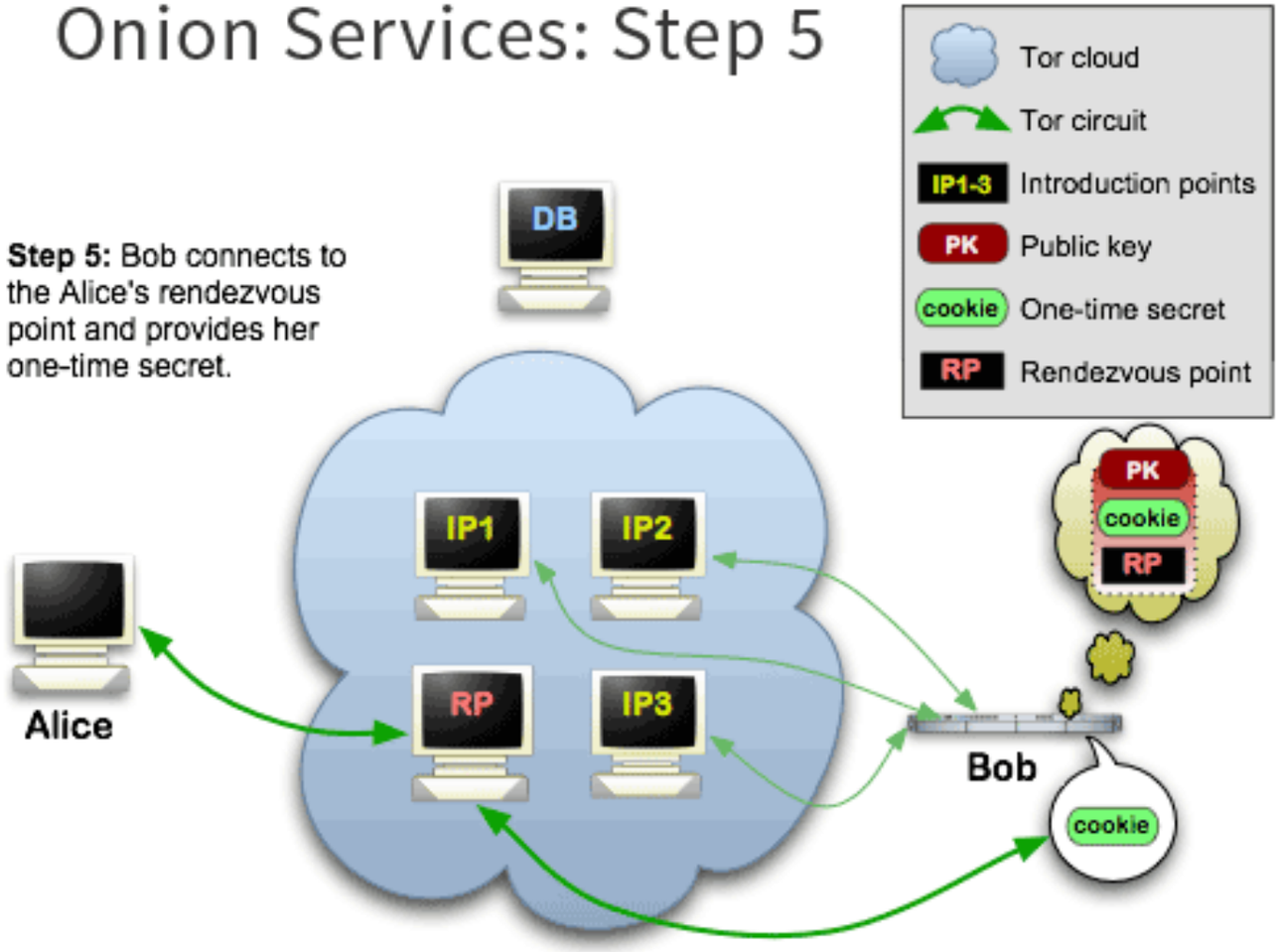
Onion Services: Step 3



Onion Services: Step 4



Onion Services: Step 5



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 Orignal paper of tor
- Thirteen key design changes since the original 2004 paper: part one, part two, part three.
- Tor Documentation

Image credits

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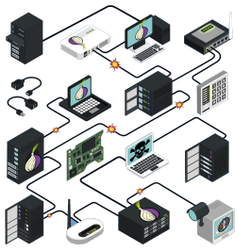
image	credit
	Hard to credit but it seems to come from an article from wired. The image was based on that one, but modified to add all of tor and nsa's logos.
	"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog" The famous cartoon by Peter Steiner.

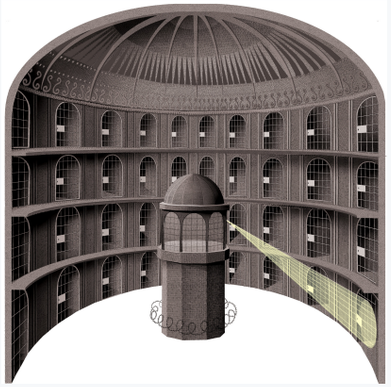
image	credit
	The 2015 upgrade to the decades-old cartoon made by Kaamran Hafeez and published in The New Yorker on February 23, 2015
	A very nice illustration of the Panopticon prision concept. Taken from an NYtimes article

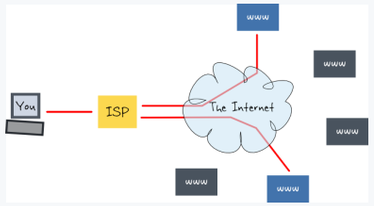
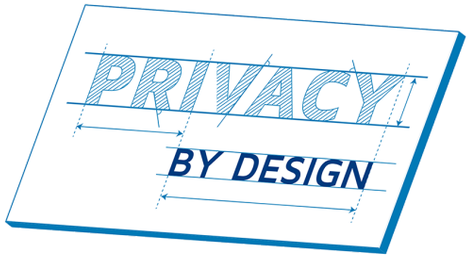
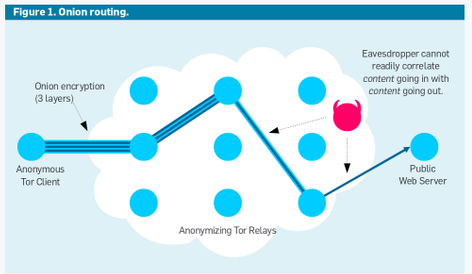
image	credit
	made by Privacy International
	Taken from this blog
	privacy by design logo is from the Privacy by Design Foundation
	From Brian Ford's article "Seeking Anonymity in an Internet Panopticon"

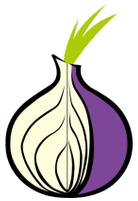
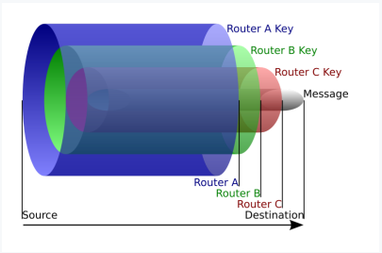
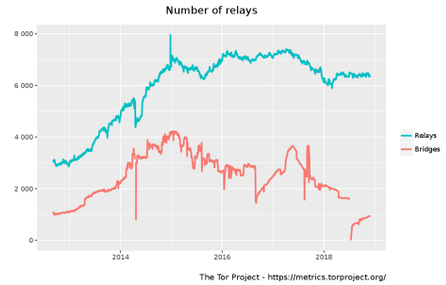
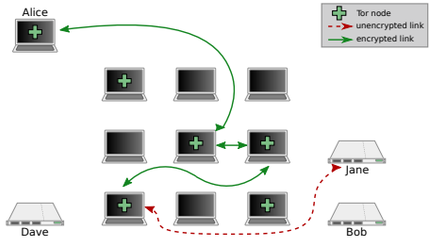
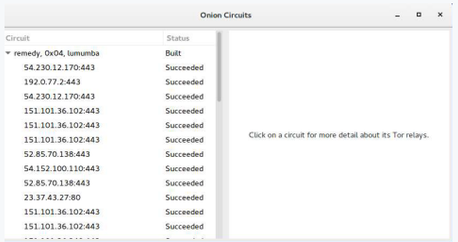
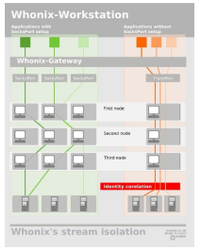
image	credit
	Tor's logo
	Wikimedia Commons
	You can find more fancy graphics of on tor metrics
	Taken from this article detailing the consensus mechanism

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.