

Weird New Tricks for Browser Fingerprinting

yan (@bcrypt)
ToorCon 2015

real pic of me



also work on these things



EFF staff photo, 2015

A close-up of Darth Vader's helmet, centered in the frame. The helmet is black with a silver-colored breathing apparatus. The background is a dark space filled with small white stars. The text "Come to the dark side..." is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font at the top of the image.

Come to the dark side...

**BETTER
TRACKING
METHODS**

...We have ~~cookies~~

Tracking web users is all the rage

- Show ads!
- Inject QUANTUM malware
- Cybercatch cybercriminals
- Gather website analytics
- Detect fraud / droidnets
- Enforce paywalls
- etc.



A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away ...

Obi-Wan tracked Luke using:

- cookies
- passive fingerprinting*
(IP address, locales, user-agent, OS, etc.)
- sweet Jedi mind tricks



* In this presentation, fingerprinting == any non-cookie web tracking method.

THE ADBLOCKERS* STRIKE BACK

* In this presentation, adblocker == any tool that blocks web tracking (including non-advertising)



THE PHANTOM ADBLOCKER BLOCKERS

**Matthew Keys**
@MatthewKeysLive

Follow

Washington Post disables reading of articles for people with ad blocker software.

The Washington Post

+ More

tic
ofi

Farbi

tional

s, will

y Fox,

ch, the two partners said this morning.

Your ad blocker is on.



Enter your e-mail address to unlock this story - and subscribe to our First Reads newsletter.

☒ I have read and agree to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

Already a subscriber? [Sign in](#)

RETWEETS


148

FAVORITES

54




REVENGE OF THE ADBLOCKER BLOCKER BLOCKERS!!!



Hide My AdBlocker

offered by borodin.evgeniy85

★★★★☆ (483) | [Productivity](#) | 115,468 users

[ADD TO CHROME](#) 

OVERVIEW | **REVIEWS** | RELATED

G+1 { 263 }

PutLocker.com Upload My Files Go Pro Login Sign Up

man.up.101.hdtv-lol.avi (77.83 MB)

Download faster with our downloader

[Download Now](#)

Tired of ads and waiting? Go Pro!

We've detected that you're using **AdBlock** or some other adblocking software. Your wait time has been increased. Please disable AdBlock for this website to avoid delays.

Choose Method of Access

Please wait for 24 seconds

[Get Pro Account](#)

Account Type:

Access Priority:

Downloading Originals:

Mobile Access:

Max Filesize:

Upload at Once:

Storage:

Instant Downloading:

Ad Free Access:

Extra Features:

Large(s) File Support:

Files Never Removed Due to Inactivity:

Multiple File Aliases

PutLocker.com Upload My Files Go Pro Login Sign Up

man.up.101.hdtv-lol.avi (77.83 MB)

Download faster with our downloader


[Download Now](#)

Tired of ads and waiting? Go Pro!

Choose Method of Access

[Continue as Free User](#) [Get Pro Account](#)

	Free	Premium
Account Type:	Free	Premium
Access Priority:	Low	High
Downloading Originals:	No	Yes
Mobile Access:	No	Yes
Max Filesize:	1GB	5GB
Upload at Once:	10	100


 Compatible with your device

This extension hides your AdBlocker from Anti-AdBlock scripts on websites such as putlocker.com, watchfreeinhd.com and more.

This is an anti-anti-adblock extension, which removes time penalties and popups/warnings about your activated AdBlocker.

Works on

- gmx.net,
- web.de,
- sockshare.com,
- putlocker.com,

 [Report Abuse](#)

Version: 1.2

Updated: October 8, 2015

Size: 52.07KB

Language: English

A New Hope: Browser Fingerprinting

- Evade blocking algorithms that blacklist domains based on cookie frequency (ex: Privacy Badger).
- Track users who disable 3rd party cookies (ex: Safari).
- Harder to delete than cookies.
- Can reveal new information about a user.

**new web features ==
new fingerprinting techniques**

HOLY SHIT I HAVE 4 LIGHTSABERS ZOMG!!1

- active fingerprinting (HTML5 canvas, clock skew, installed fonts & plugins, WebRTC...)
- **supercookies** (Flash cookies, caches, HSTS, etags...)



Fingerprinting attacks in the wild



Mike O'Neill

@incloud

 Follow

WebRTC being used now by embedded 3rd party on [nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com) to report visitors' local IP addresses.

Inspector Console Debugger

Web Editor Performance Network DOM

Debugger: http://www.nytimes.com/WTJ_2015-07-10T17:01:34Z

Inspector

Console

Debugger

Web Editor

Performance

Network

DOM

```

13601  function __v__
13602  {
13603      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13604          var x = 0;
13605          if (x) {
13606              return x;
13607          }
13608          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13609      };
13610      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13611          var x = 0;
13612          if (x) {
13613              return x;
13614          }
13615          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13616      };
13617      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13618          var x = 0;
13619          if (x) {
13620              return x;
13621          }
13622          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13623      };
13624      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13625          var x = 0;
13626          if (x) {
13627              return x;
13628          }
13629          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13630      };
13631      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13632          var x = 0;
13633          if (x) {
13634              return x;
13635          }
13636          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13637      };
13638      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13639          var x = 0;
13640          if (x) {
13641              return x;
13642          }
13643          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13644      };
13645      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13646          var x = 0;
13647          if (x) {
13648              return x;
13649          }
13650          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13651      };
13652      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13653          var x = 0;
13654          if (x) {
13655              return x;
13656          }
13657          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13658      };
13659      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13660          var x = 0;
13661          if (x) {
13662              return x;
13663          }
13664          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13665      };
13666      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13667          var x = 0;
13668          if (x) {
13669              return x;
13670          }
13671          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13672      };
13673      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13674          var x = 0;
13675          if (x) {
13676              return x;
13677          }
13678          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13679      };
13680      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13681          var x = 0;
13682          if (x) {
13683              return x;
13684          }
13685          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13686      };
13687      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13688          var x = 0;
13689          if (x) {
13690              return x;
13691          }
13692          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13693      };
13694      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13695          var x = 0;
13696          if (x) {
13697              return x;
13698          }
13699          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13700      };
13701      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13702          var x = 0;
13703          if (x) {
13704              return x;
13705          }
13706          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13707      };
13708      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13709          var x = 0;
13710          if (x) {
13711              return x;
13712          }
13713          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13714      };
13715      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13716          var x = 0;
13717          if (x) {
13718              return x;
13719          }
13720          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13721      };
13722      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13723          var x = 0;
13724          if (x) {
13725              return x;
13726          }
13727          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13728      };
13729      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13730          var x = 0;
13731          if (x) {
13732              return x;
13733          }
13734          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13735      };
13736      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13737          var x = 0;
13738          if (x) {
13739              return x;
13740          }
13741          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13742      };
13743      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13744          var x = 0;
13745          if (x) {
13746              return x;
13747          }
13748          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13749      };
13750      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13751          var x = 0;
13752          if (x) {
13753              return x;
13754          }
13755          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13756      };
13757      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13758          var x = 0;
13759          if (x) {
13760              return x;
13761          }
13762          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13763      };
13764      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13765          var x = 0;
13766          if (x) {
13767              return x;
13768          }
13769          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13770      };
13771      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13772          var x = 0;
13773          if (x) {
13774              return x;
13775          }
13776          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13777      };
13778      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13779          var x = 0;
13780          if (x) {
13781              return x;
13782          }
13783          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13784      };
13785      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13786          var x = 0;
13787          if (x) {
13788              return x;
13789          }
13790          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13791      };
13792      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13793          var x = 0;
13794          if (x) {
13795              return x;
13796          }
13797          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13798      };
13799      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13800          var x = 0;
13801          if (x) {
13802              return x;
13803          }
13804          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13805      };
13806      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13807          var x = 0;
13808          if (x) {
13809              return x;
13810          }
13811          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13812      };
13813      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13814          var x = 0;
13815          if (x) {
13816              return x;
13817          }
13818          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13819      };
13820      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13821          var x = 0;
13822          if (x) {
13823              return x;
13824          }
13825          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13826      };
13827      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13828          var x = 0;
13829          if (x) {
13830              return x;
13831          }
13832          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13833      };
13834      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13835          var x = 0;
13836          if (x) {
13837              return x;
13838          }
13839          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13840      };
13841      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13842          var x = 0;
13843          if (x) {
13844              return x;
13845          }
13846          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13847      };
13848      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13849          var x = 0;
13850          if (x) {
13851              return x;
13852          }
13853          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13854      };
13855      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13856          var x = 0;
13857          if (x) {
13858              return x;
13859          }
13860          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13861      };
13862      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13863          var x = 0;
13864          if (x) {
13865              return x;
13866          }
13867          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13868      };
13869      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13870          var x = 0;
13871          if (x) {
13872              return x;
13873          }
13874          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13875      };
13876      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function (x, y) {
13877          var x = 0;
13878          if (x) {
13879              return x;
13880          }
13881          return __gutterbox_gutterbox;
13882      };
13883      var __gutterbox_gutterbox = function
```

RETWEETS
609

FAVORITES
323



2:47 PM - 10 Jul 2015

Analytics: Cookie Leakage (TS//SI)

Use cookies to identify Tor users when they are not using Tor

- Current: preliminary analysis shows that some cookies “survive” Tor use. Depends on how target is using Tor (Torbutton/Tor Browser Bundle clears out cookies).
- Goal: test with cookies associated with CT targets
 - Idea: what if we seeded cookies to a target?
 - Investigate Evercookie persistence

geez thx a
lot Samy

#realtalk

**How would you track a
paranoid user who clears
cookies & uses an adblocker?**

**Could fingerprint them, but
adblockers & browsers will
get better at blocking you...**

...unless blocking causes too much collateral damage.

Collateral:

Privacy-conscious users usually care about security.

Can we fingerprint them using security features that are too important for them to turn off?

Trick #1: Abuse HTTP Public Key Pinning

HPKP (RFC 7469)

Server: One of these hashes must be in the TLS cert chain you receive from me.

Browser: DOPE!! NEXT TIME I SEE YOU I WILL CHECK IT BEFORE I WRECK IT

Public-Key-Pins:

`max-age=3000;`

How long to
cache this shit for

SHA-256 of a pub. key
in the cert chain.
Browser checks &
caches this.

`pin-sha256="`
`d6qzRu9z0ECb90Uez27xWltNsj0e1Md`
`7GkYYkVoZWmM=";`

SHA-256 of a backup
pub. key (required). Must
NOT be in the cert chain.
Browser caches this.

`pin-sha256="`
`E9CZ9INDbd+2eRQozYqqbQ2yXLVKB9+`
`xcprMF+44U1g=";`

POST endpoint to report
pin validation failures
(optional).

`report-uri= "http://example.`
`com/report";`

Whether to pin for the host's
subdomains as well (optional).

`includeSubdomains;`

Supercookie #1: fake backup pins

1. `https://example.com` sets a unique backup pin for each user + `includeSubdomains` + `report-uri`.
2. `` serves a chain that deliberately fails pin validation.
3. **A validation failure report is sent which includes a unique cached backup pin!**

Trick #2: Abuse HTTP Strict Transport Security + Content Security Policy

HSTS (RFC 6797)

Server: Hey, I just met you, and this is crazy, but please only call me over HTTPS for the next 604800 seconds.


Browser: OK

Strict-Transport-Security:


max-age=3000;

includeSubdomains;

How long to
remember to only
connect to this host
via HTTPS



Whether subdomains
should also only be
connected to over
HTTPS (optional).



Supercookie #2: HSTS cache state

1. sneaky.com wants to fingerprint users.
2. example.com is known to support HSTS.
3. sneaky.com/index.html embeds `<img src=
http://example.com>`.

What happens then?

Case 1: Browser has never visited example.com

-> makes a network round-trip, gets 301/302 to <https://example.com>

Case 2: Browser visited example.com before.

-> HSTS causes an “internal” redirect (307) to <https://example.com/> ~immediately

If we can measure the HTTP to HTTPS redirect latency, we can distinguish Case 1 from Case 2!

Q: How do we measure that?

A: Abuse one more browser security feature.

Content Security Policy (W3C spec)

Server: For your safety, please only allow resources of type <X> from origins <A> & while on this page.

Browser: I GOT U FAM

Content-Security-Policy:


img-src: https://*;

Allow images to load
from HTTPS origins
only



script-src: 'self' *.
scripts.com cdn.example.com

Allow scripts to load
from the page's origin,
*.scripts.com, and cdn.
example.com only.



The Missing Ingredient:

Set CSP to **'img-src http://*'**

HTTPS image requests are blocked and fire an error event to JS listeners.

Why is this useful?

1. JS only lets us listen for `img onerror` and `onload` events. Turns out CSP violation triggers `onerror` consistently and early in the fetch pipeline.
2. If browser ever completes a request for <https://example.com>, it will get the HSTS pin and future results are polluted. CSP prevents this from happening!

After setting CSP:

Case 1: Browser has never visited example.com

-> makes network request, gets 301/302 to <https://example.com>, img onerror fires.

Case 2: Browser visited example.com before.

-> HSTS rewrites src to <https://example.com/>~immediately, img onerror fires.

How long does the HTTP to HTTPS redirect take?

Case 1: Browser has never visited example.com

-> Order of 100ms depending on network latency and site response time.

Case 2: Browser visited example.com before.

-> Order of 1ms, independent of the site and network conditions.

Putting it all together

Remember the CSS visited-selector bug?

Slide from Michael Coates, 2011 ->

CSS History Sniffing

- Determine user's browsing habits with CSS
- Visited link different than non-visited link
- CSS and element inspection determines visited pages
- Issued fixed March 2010



Visited Link

Unvisited Link

```
if (getComputedStyle(link, "").color ==  
    "rgb(0, 0, 128)")  
{  
    // link.href has not been visited  
} else {  
    // link.href has been visited  
}
```

<http://dbaron.org/mozilla/visited-privacy>

That was soooooo 2010

New plan:

1. Scrape Alexa Top 1M for hosts that send HSTS and aren't preloaded.
2. Load all the HSTS hosts asynchronously on one page.
3. Measure the onerror timing & separate hosts into visited and unvisited.

Turns out...

Redirect timing is hard to measure accurately for 300+ async image loads at once.

Improved by calibrating timing drift using a request to a preloaded HSTS host every other request.

Chrome still had many false positives; confirmed timings for positive results using synchronous loads.



demo:

<http://zyan.scripts.mit.edu/sniffly>

scraper + tracker code:

<https://github.com/diracdeltas/sniffly>

Your mileage may vary

- Results depend on latest HSTS preload list.
- HTTPS Everywhere & other extensions cause false positives.
- Doesn't work as-is in Tor Browser thanks to 100 ms timing buckets.



Your mileage may vary

- Only leaks origin, not full path . . . or does it?

Actually, looks feasible to adapt this attack to leak the 301 redirect cache instead of the HSTS cache. :)

TO BE CONTINUED...

The End



Call me maybe:

yan@mit.edu / @bcrypt

Many <3's to White Ops for
sponsoring my trip to ToorCon!

Special thanks to Scott
Helme, Jan Schaumann,
Chris Palmer, and Chris
Rohlf for feedback and
demo testing.

