

Hunting Them All

The Journey

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Cognitive Threat Analytics

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Who am I?

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Cisco Blogs: blogs.cisco.com/author/valeros
Research: researchgate.net/profile/Valeros_Veronica

- Lead threat intelligence analyst and threat researcher at Cognitive Threat Analytics, Cisco Systems
- Co-Founder of MatesLab Hackerspace (Mar del Plata, Argentina)
- Core member of Security Without Borders (@swborders)

CONGRATULATIONS!

en chosen to receive a
Gateway Desktop Computer!

m 4 Processor 2.66 GHz

R-SDRAM, 80GB HD, 48x CD-RW

or CRT Monitor (18-inch viewable)

to Claim Your FREE* Desktop Computer!

FREE!



*with partici

Microsoft Internet Explorer

Click OK to download our free software while browsing the site

OK Cancel

Getting Started Features Contact Us Help In

ents

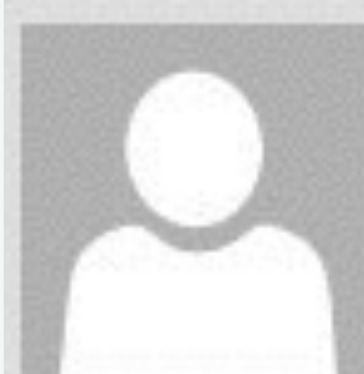
Black
Roule
Slot M

seconds)

Internet

oker events. Play a
games live, for Fun or Real Money. Chat with Others. 25% Deposit Bo

Online Poker Room T... http://ads1.revenue....



Sun 4/12/2015 11:55 AM

Internal Revenue Service

[!!Spam KSE]Payment confirmation

To

Attachments

confirmation_75991792.doc (58 KB); AT

Dear taxpayer,

You are receiving this notification because your tax
Please find attached a copy of the approved 1040A
On the last page, you can also find the wire transfer

Transaction type : Tax Refund
Payment method : Wire transfer
Amount : \$7592
Status : Processed
Form : 1040A

Additional information regarding tax refunds can be
Please note that IRS will never ask you to disclose p

Regards,
Internal Revenue Service
Address: 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224
Website: <http://www.irs.gov>
Phone: 1-800-829-1040

HYDRACRYPT

s and documents were encrypted

ID :

made with a special crypto-code!

ICE to decrypt it without our special
r unique private key!

MAIL:

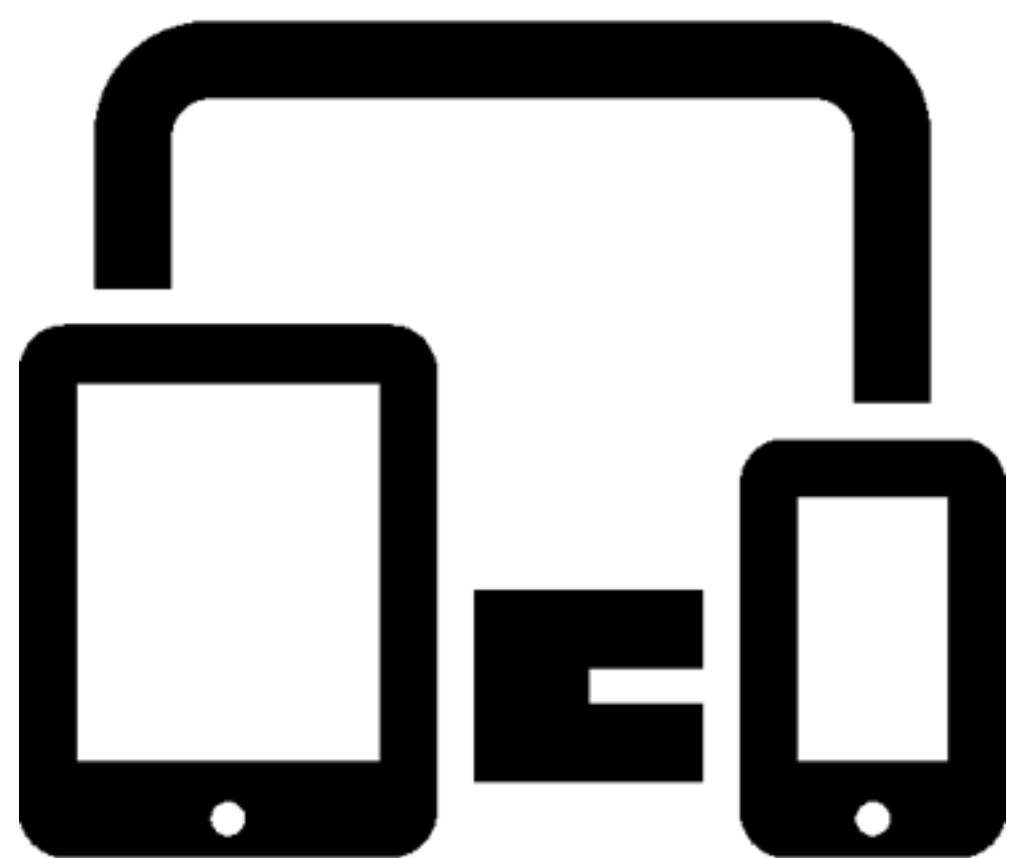
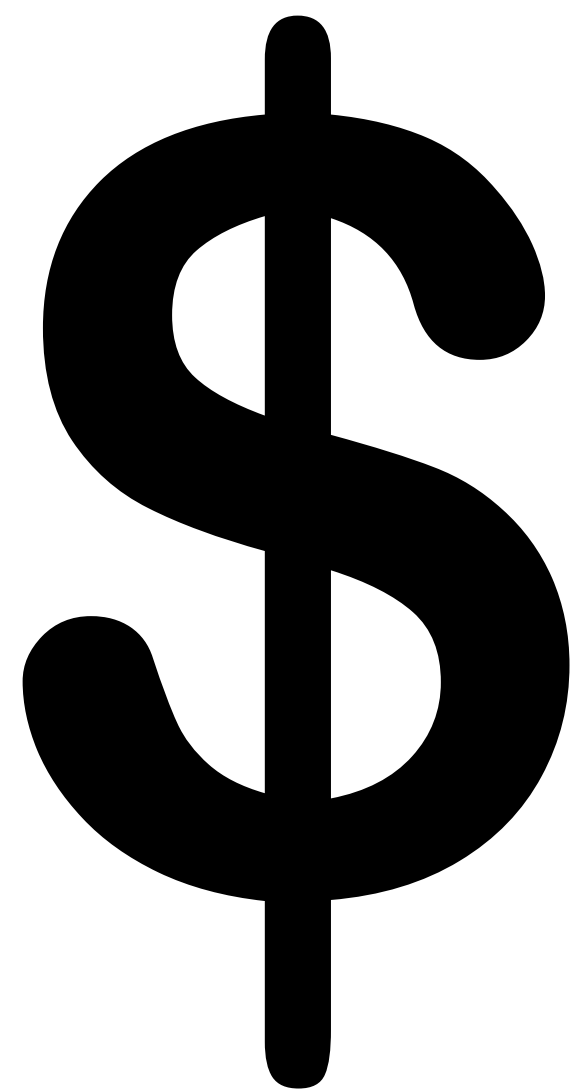
number and one of your encrypted file.

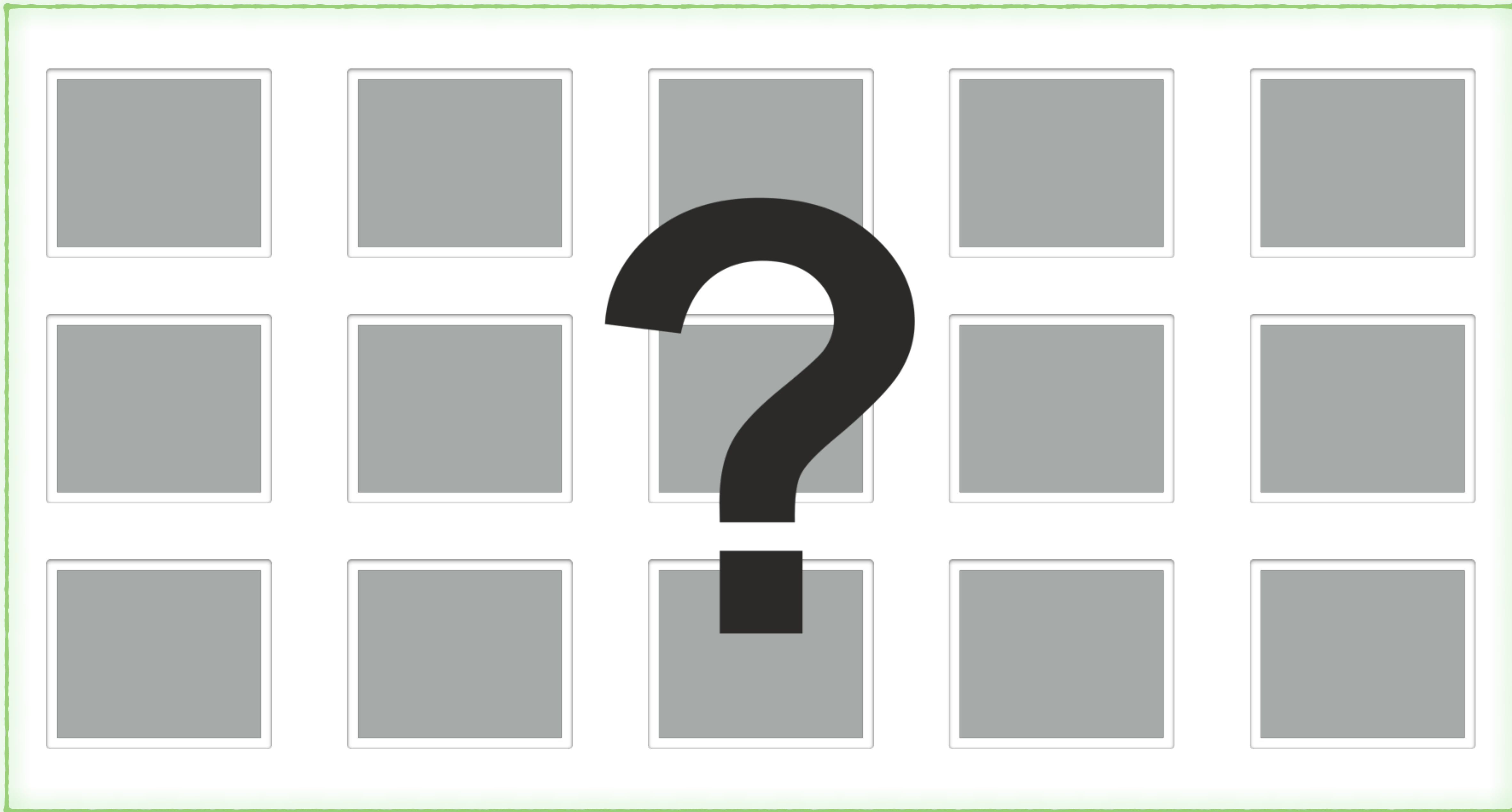
our guarantee!

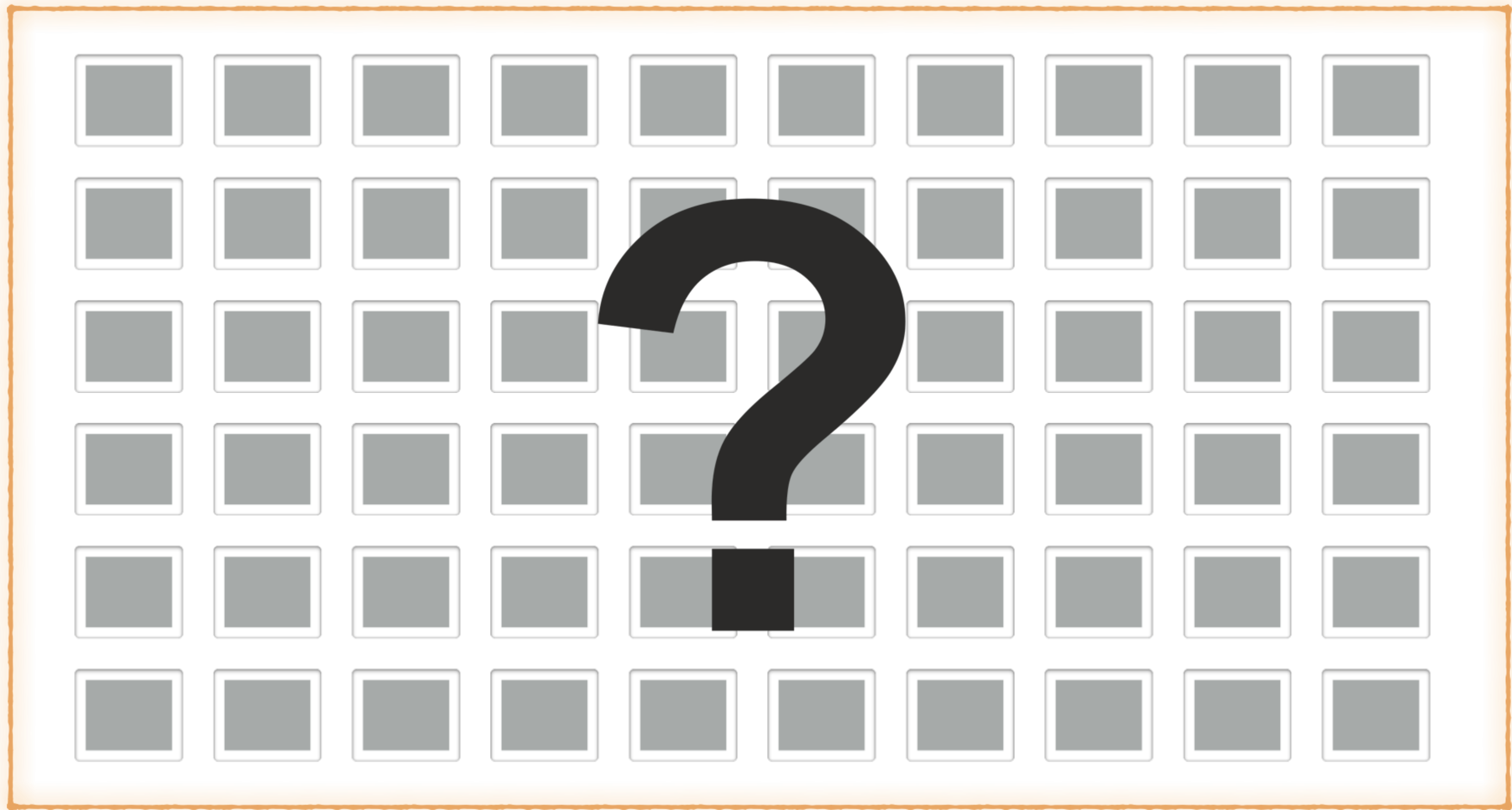
unctions:

r that your files will stay encrypted forever)
on the Dark Markets

thout our software can destroy or damage yo







“(...) look for attacks that get past security systems and to catch intrusions in progress rather than after attackers have completed their objectives and done worse damage to the business.”

SANS Institute
The Who, What, Where, When,
Why and How of Effective Threat Hunting



Adversaries don't need to be *133t*,
they only need to be better than us.

They have time.

They abuse the weakest link.

They hide in plain sight.

They know our limitations.

Malware needs to be coded.

‘Less effort’ rule.

Similar mechanisms used.

They reuse code.

Not [usually] reinventing the wheel.

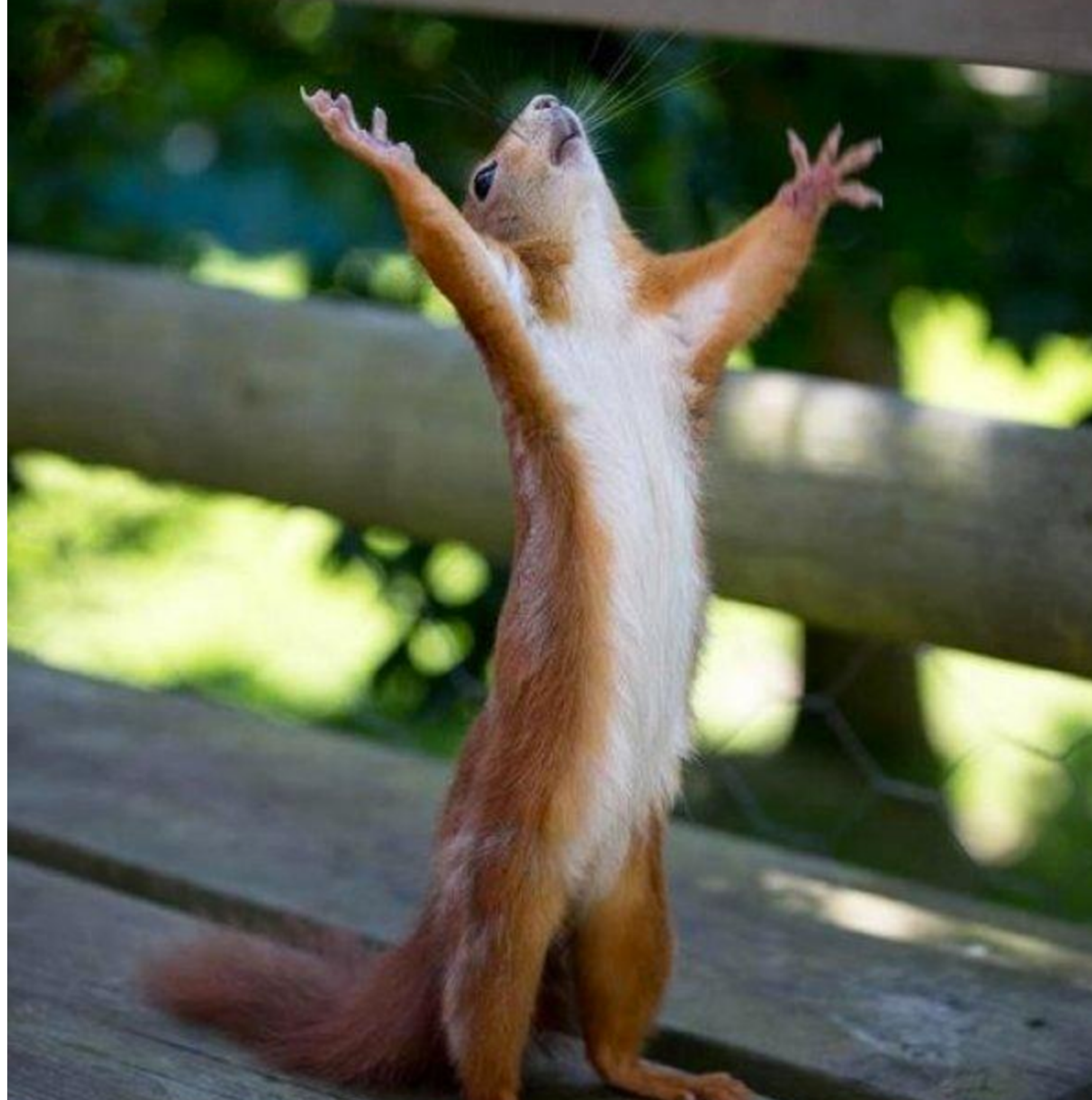
Modularity and flexibility in a
malware implies
[network] **communication**,
often **periodic**.

Hundreds of networks

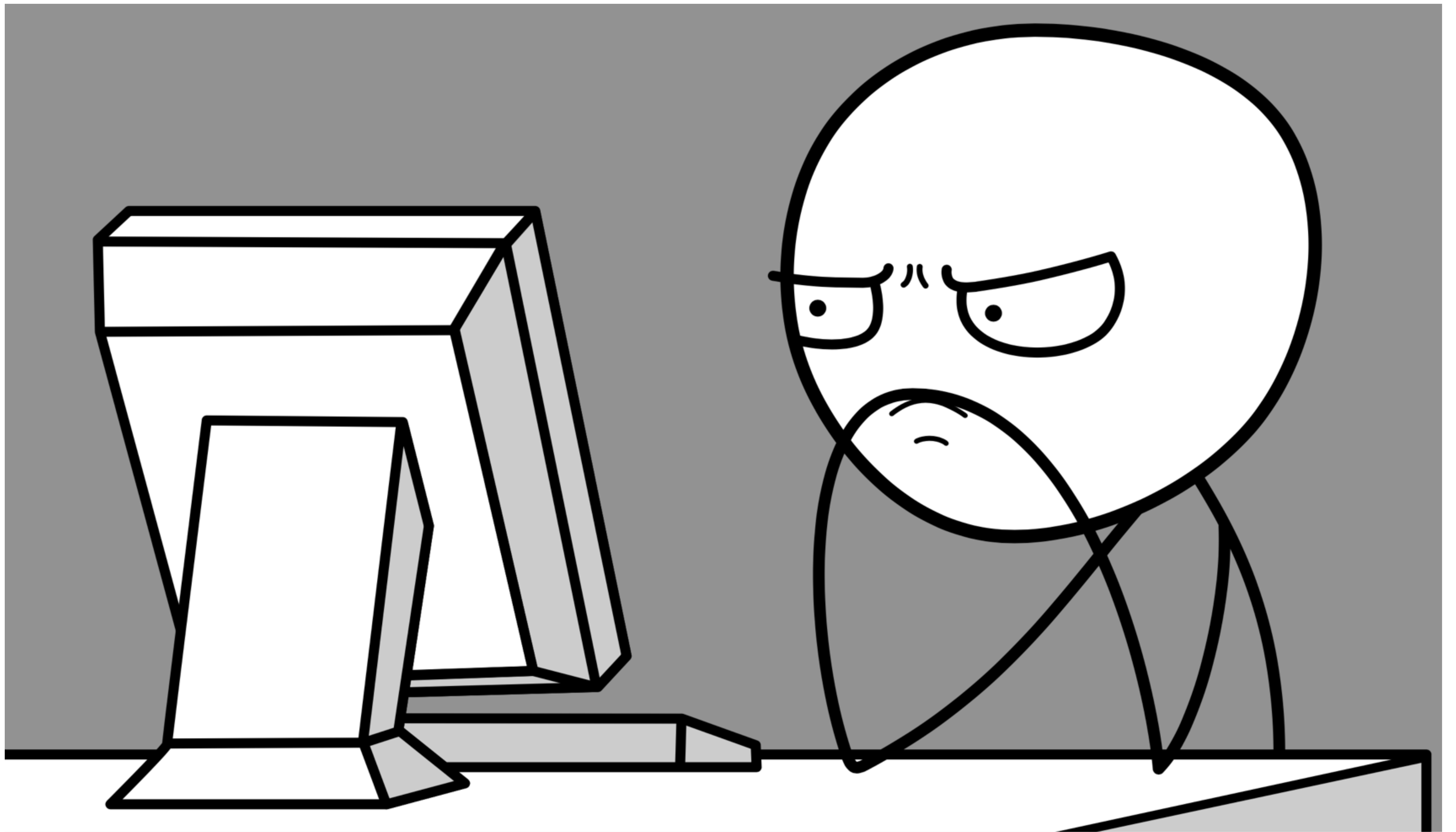
Millions of users

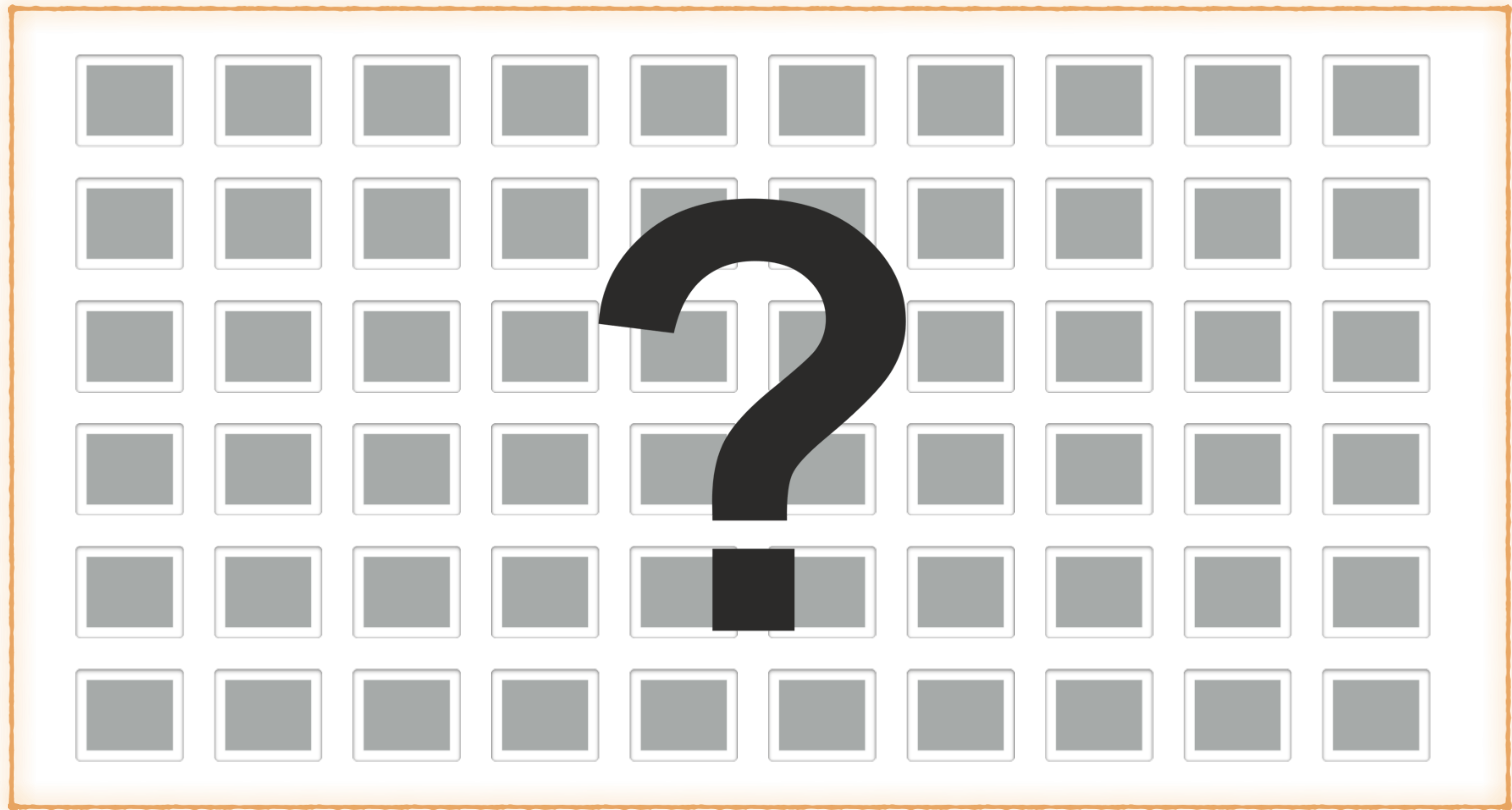
Billions of web requests

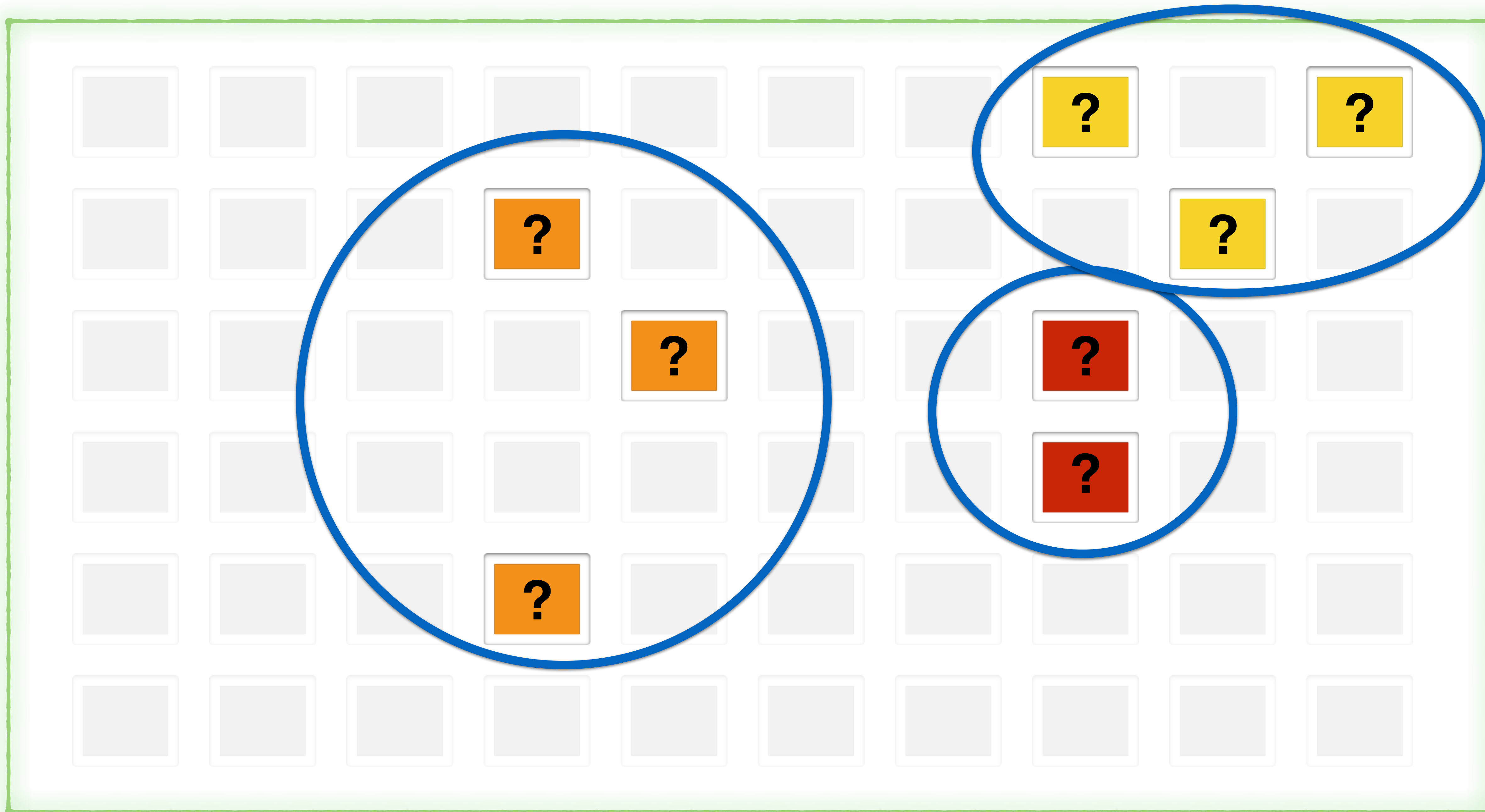




So much data <3





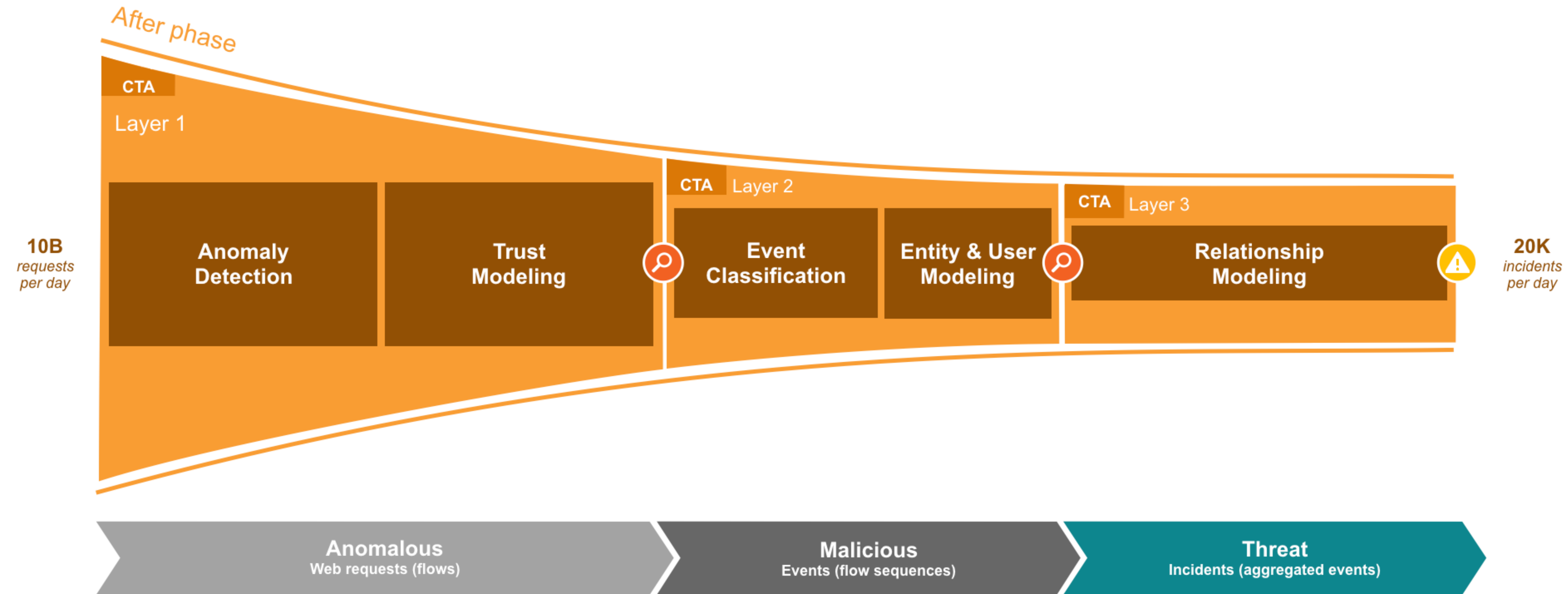


Machine Learning can make
the difference.

2017-02-19 00:09:30 **http://www.ceylanogullari.com/logof.gif?**
8fcd2c7=1206294072 200 52.28.249.128 362 157 Mozilla/4.0
(compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 5.1; .NET CLR 1.1.4322; .NET
CLR 2.0.50728) text/plain

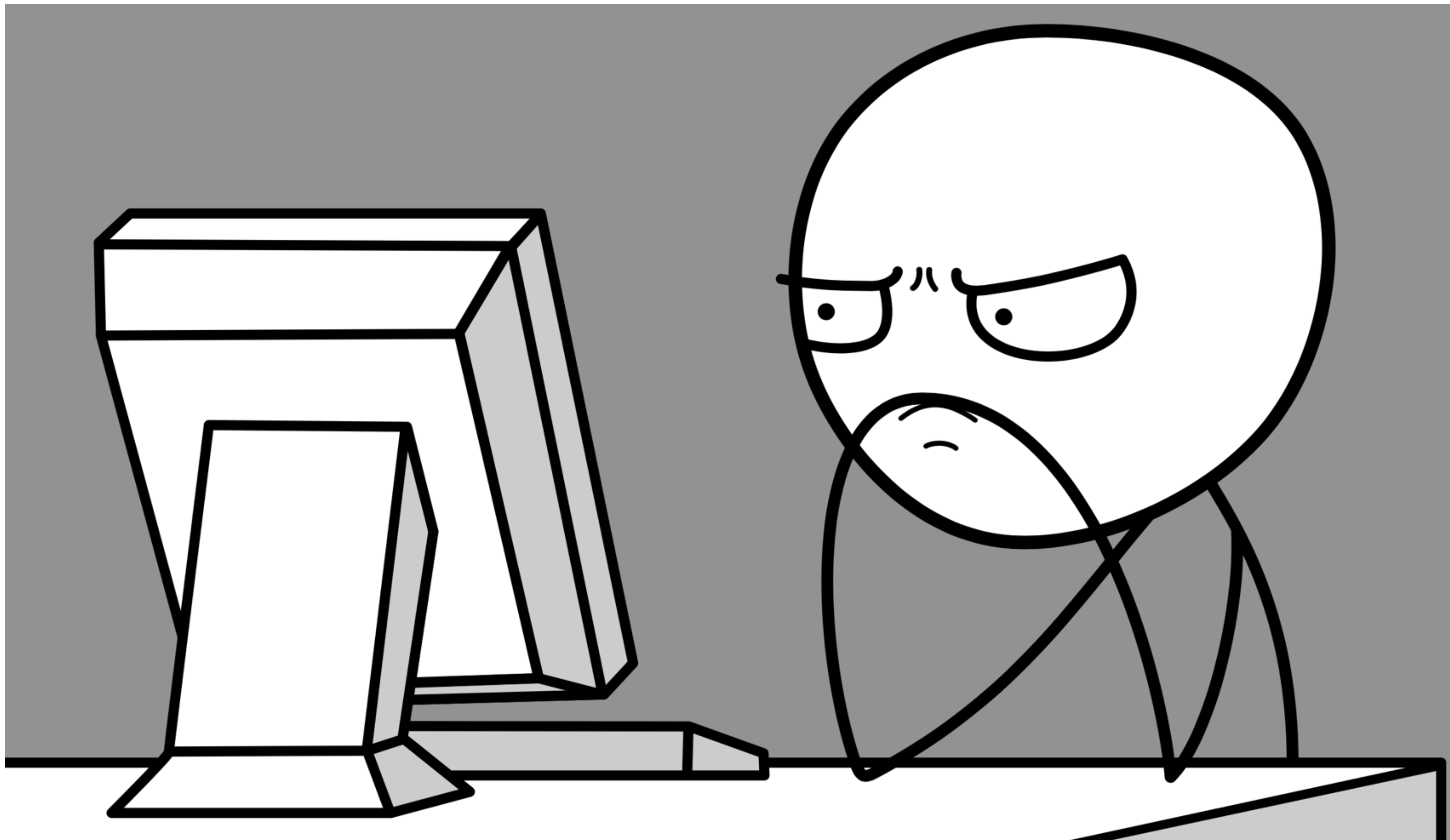
2017-02-19 00:09:31 **http://www.bluecubecreatives.com/logos.gif?**
8fcd5d3=603150156 200 69.172.201.153 314 1778 Mozilla/4.0
(compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 5.1; .NET CLR 1.1.4322; .NET
CLR 2.0.50728) text/html

Focusing our attention on what is important









Strategy

Force

Strategy

Cunning

Force

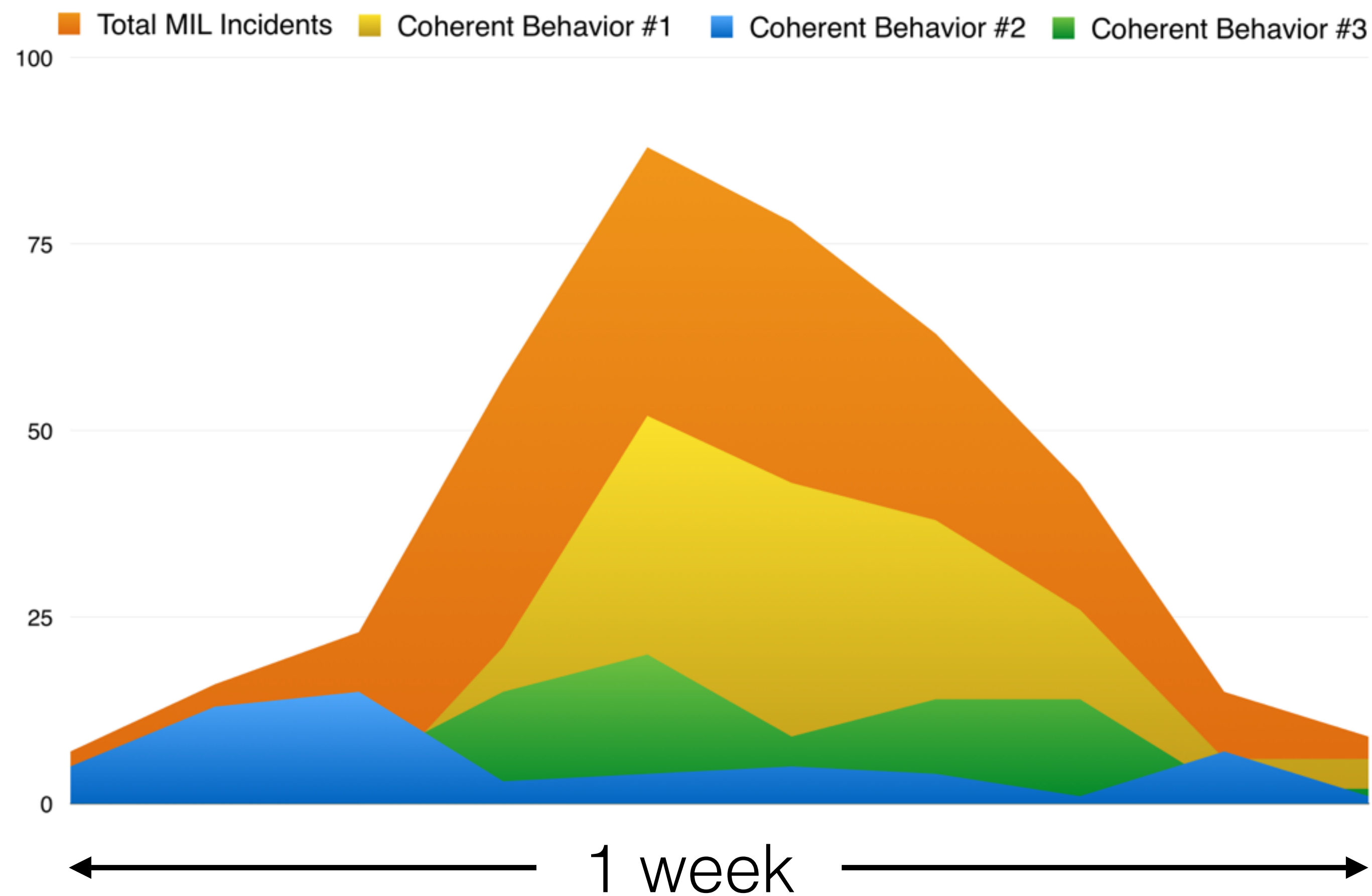
Strategy

Cunning



Clean and Rinse

Multi-Instance Learning Classifier (MIL)



- Adware 1
- Adware 2
- DNS Changer v2015

Research by Karel Bartos, V. Franc, M. Softka.
<http://blogs.cisco.com/security/talos/machine-learning-detectors>

[**http://finhoome.info/u/?a=kLz-Yckq\(..\)&c=fPOnv\(..\)&r=987\(..\)**](http://finhoome.info/u/?a=kLz-Yckq(..)&c=fPOnv(..)&r=987(..))

[**http://domenjob.com/u/?a=D-2n5k7\(..\)&c=vTB5\(..\)&r=589\(..\)**](http://domenjob.com/u/?a=D-2n5k7(..)&c=vTB5(..)&r=589(..))

[**http://domenjob.net/u/?a=qk7BKV9\(..\)&c=m6V\(..\)&r=327\(..\)**](http://domenjob.net/u/?a=qk7BKV9(..)&c=m6V(..)&r=327(..))

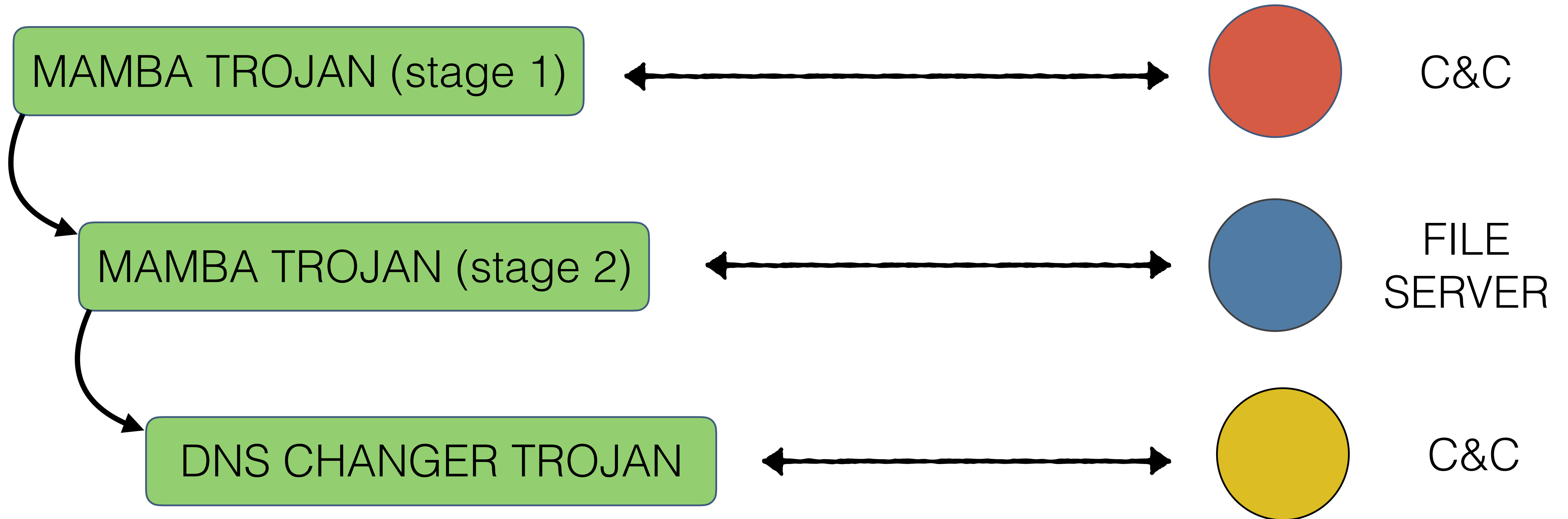
[**http://listcool.net/u/?q=jW6H5obe2\(..\)&c=be2G\(..\)&r=684\(..\)**](http://listcool.net/u/?q=jW6H5obe2(..)&c=be2G(..)&r=684(..))

[**http://listcool.info/u/?q=J5DM4nrA\(..\)&c=rASU\(..\)&r=911\(..\)**](http://listcool.info/u/?q=J5DM4nrA(..)&c=rASU(..)&r=911(..))

[**http://usafun.info/u/?q=S42YFQPC\(..\)&c=YFQP\(..\)&r=769\(..\)**](http://usafun.info/u/?q=S42YFQPC(..)&c=YFQP(..)&r=769(..))

[**http://realget.info/u/?a=fDrS_9vLG\(..\)&c=GM0-\(..\)&r=528\(..\)**](http://realget.info/u/?a=fDrS_9vLG(..)&c=GM0-(..)&r=528(..))






[**http://alwaysweb.info/u/?a=G3ZGb\(..\)&c=wNR4\(..\)&r=781\(..\)**](http://alwaysweb.info/u/?a=G3ZGb(..)&c=wNR4(..)&r=781(..))



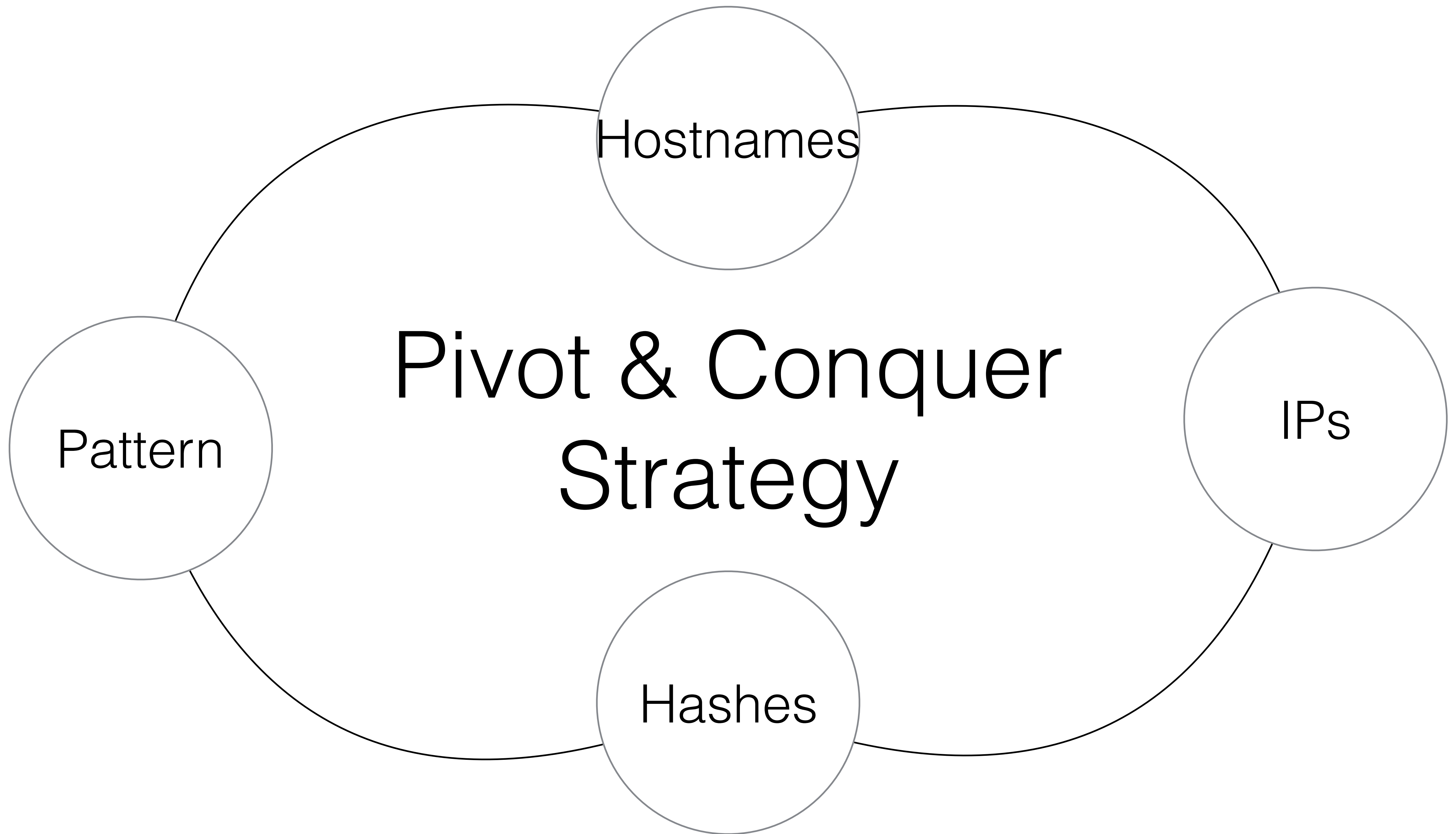
Thanks to Ross Gibb (Cisco AMP Threat Grid)!

Lets find well known malware

Lets find well known malware
(Thanks to our community we
know about them!)

- Sality: 
- Zeus: 
- Asterope: 
- Cryptowall: 
- Vawtrak: 

- Andromeda: 
- Qbot: 
- Ramdo: 
- Geodo: 
- Necurs: 



The sality case

Modular botnet & file infector

UDP & HTTP Communication

Uses compromised sites

Active & stable since ~2003!

#infosec:
13 years later,
salinity is still a problem.

IOCs will cause high number of FPs

<http://www.ceylanogullari.com/logof.gif?8fcd2c7=1206294072>

<http://www.bluecubecreatives.com/logos.gif?8fcd5d3=603150156>

Regexps are not flexible enough

How do I keep track of this?

Specialised classifier for Salty

<http://www.bluecubecreatives.com/logos.gif?1c5de42b=475915307>

<http://www.ceylanogullari.com/logof.gif?1c5ddd77=1427740773>

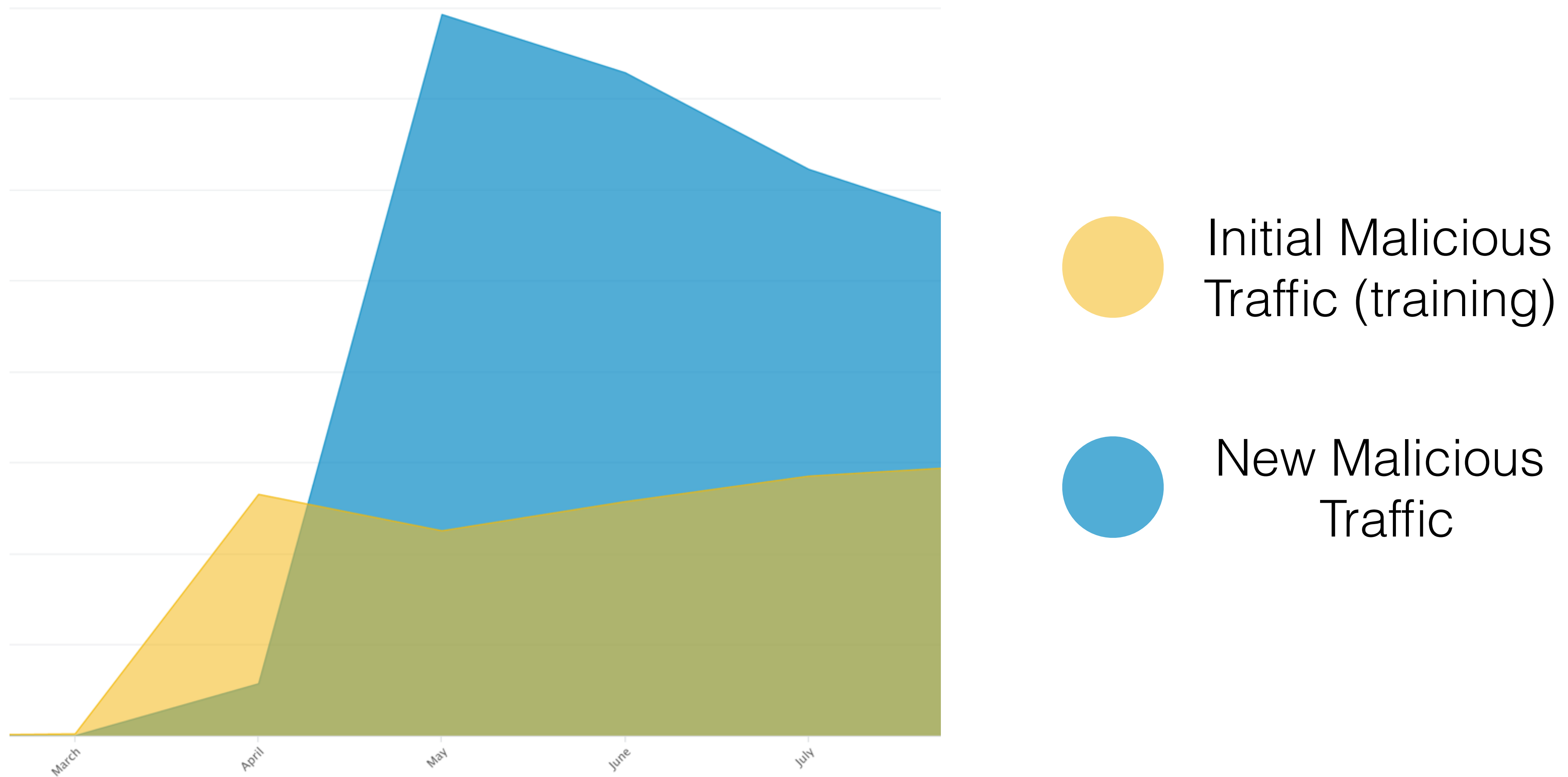
<http://dewpoint-eg.com/images/logosa.gif?1c5dd29e=475910814>

<http://www.akkoncelik.com/images/logo.gif?1c67038=297820720>

Analysts should spend their time
finding new things

Can we create algorithms to
automatically track malicious
behaviours?

Modeling malware behavior

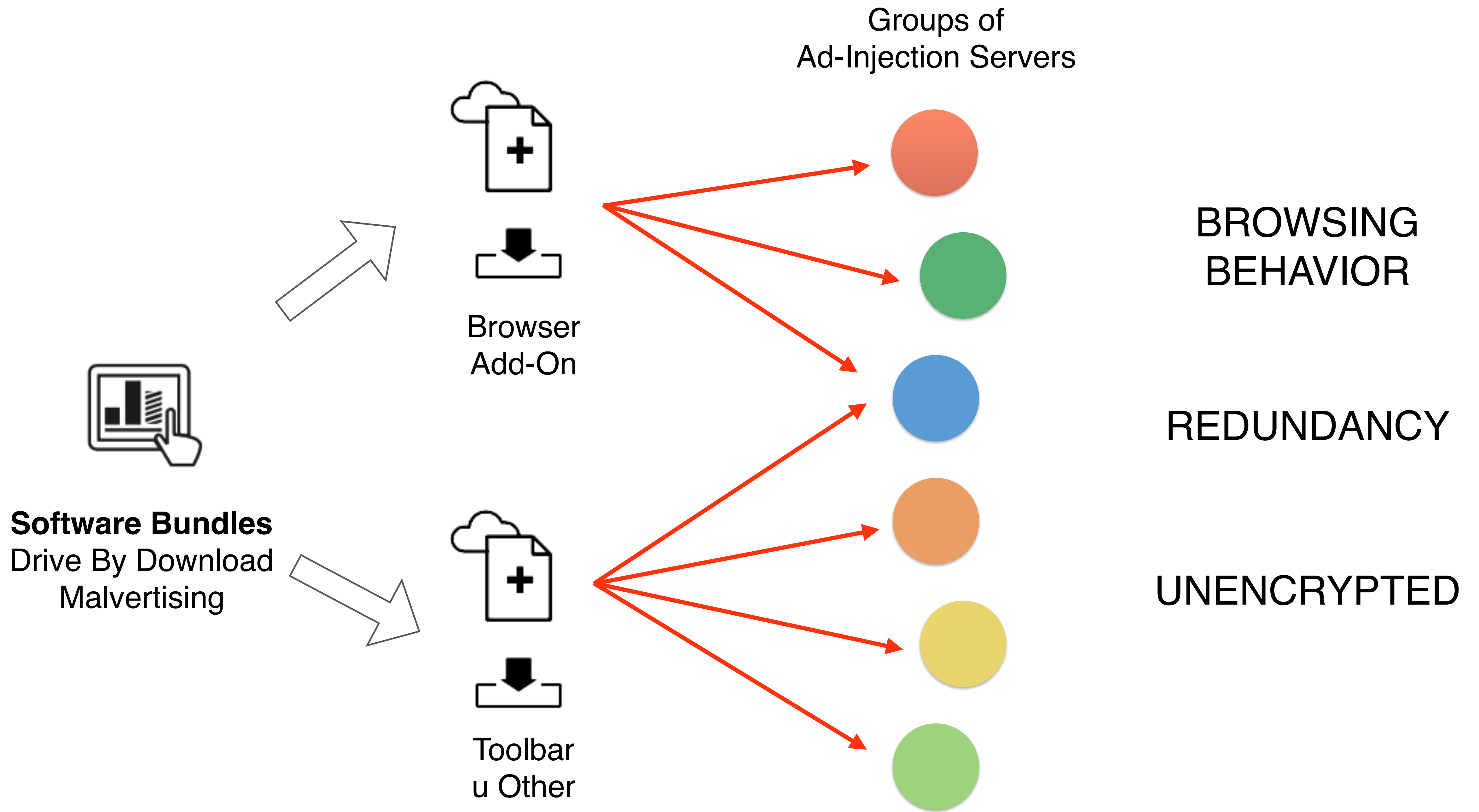


Tracking +200 malicious behaviors
60% is automated tracking

Let the machine do the
machine work

While people worry about APTs,
Russia and China...

Adware exfiltrates our data
in plain sight...



Exfiltration of Referer

Internal Sites

file:///C:/Users/[REDACTED]/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/Temporary%20Internet%20Files/Content.Outlook/[REDACTED]/[REDACTED].pdf

Web Security Sites

http://alert.websec[REDACTED].com/alert/process?a=-3-A-kU0exaZkRLRYIyfl0GbX[REDACTED]

Exfiltration of Referer

Encrypted Sites

[https://reservaciones.\[REDACTED\].com/travel](https://reservaciones.[REDACTED].com/travel)

Personal Information

[https://\[REDACTED\]airways.com/\[REDACTED\]/Booking/DeepLink?
trip_type=one+way&\[REDACTED\]&fare_description=normal &persons.
0=1 &depart=IXM&dest.1=MAA&date.0=07Mar&date_flexibility=flexible
&origin=IN&userip=\[REDACTED\]&usercountry=\[REDACTED\]&referrerid=fl
exible&\[REDACTED\]&**from**=Madurai&**to**=Chennai&**departdate**=7/03/2016
&returndate=](https://[REDACTED]airways.com/[REDACTED]/Booking/DeepLink?trip_type=one+way&[REDACTED]&fare_description=normal &persons.0=1 &depart=IXM&dest.1=MAA&date.0=07Mar&date_flexibility=flexible &origin=IN&userip=[REDACTED]&usercountry=[REDACTED]&referrerid=flexible&[REDACTED]&from=Madurai&to=Chennai&departdate=7/03/2016 &returndate=)

Exfiltration of Referer

Personal Information

[http://\[REDACTED\]bank.com/personal/\[REDACTED\]payments/
pay-credi\[REDACTED\]](http://[REDACTED]bank.com/personal/[REDACTED]payments/pay-credi[REDACTED])

Information we consume

[http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2016/04/22/this-maths-
problem-has-thousands-of-people-baffled-can-you-work/](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2016/04/22/this-maths-problem-has-thousands-of-people-baffled-can-you-work/)

What can they know?

Our location

Our browsing history

Where do we work

Services we use

How are we protected

User credentials

Travel plans

Interests

Internal infrastructure of
our organisation

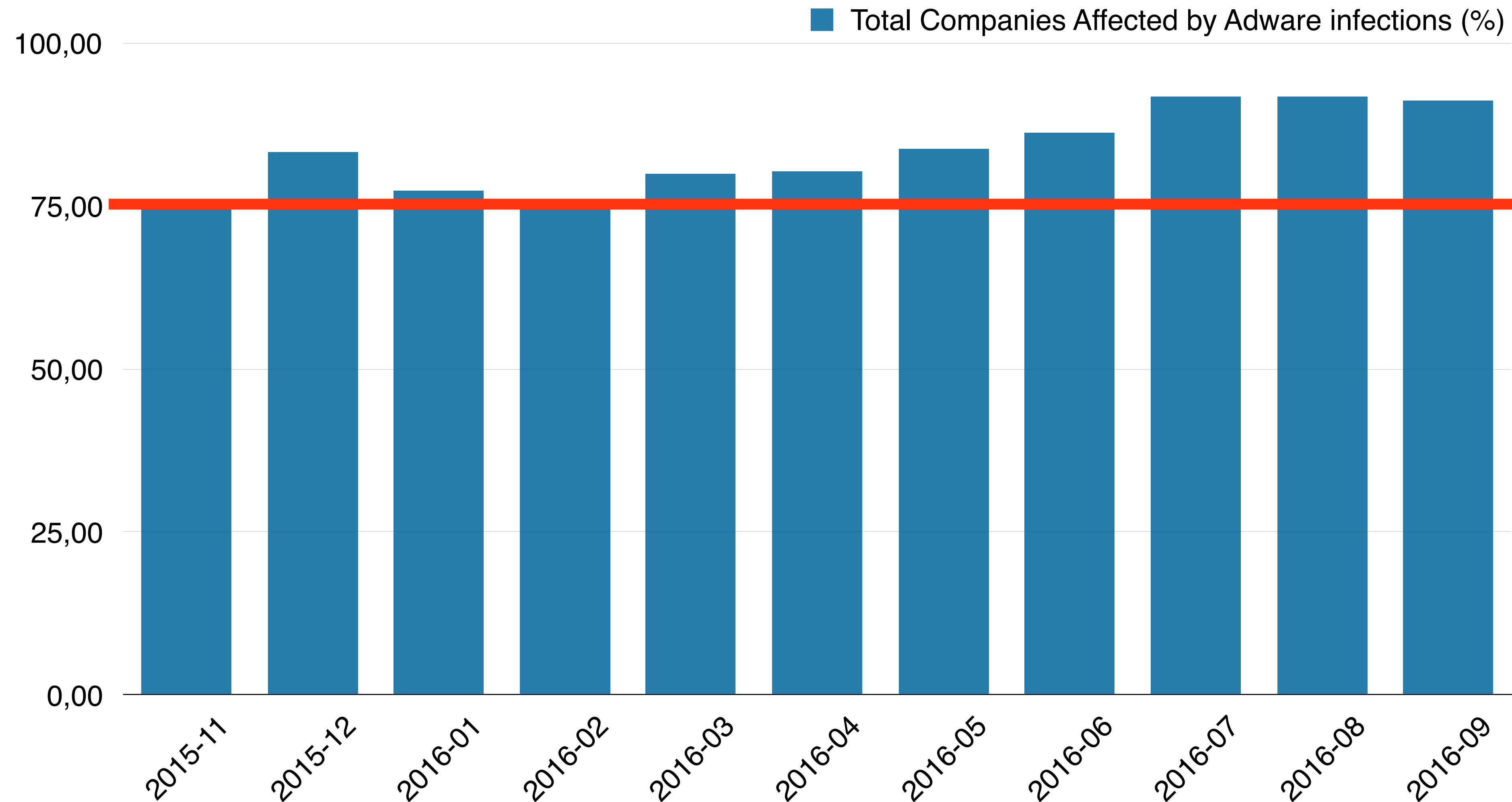
Time zone

Work hours

Relationships

Health issues

75% companies affected by adware



Threats are rarely unique

Know your network.

Use all tools at your disposal.

Don't leave the users out.



Jeremiah Grossman 
@jeremiahg

 **Follow**



Hundreds of millions spent on security, only to be foiled by spear phishing and a \$100 bounty.

49. When BARATOV successfully obtained unauthorized access to a victim's account, he notified DOKUCHAEV and provided evidence of that access. He then demanded payment—generally approximately U.S. \$100—via online payment services.

Thank you

