

The Human Factor in Online Fraud

Annotated slides available at www.human-factor.org

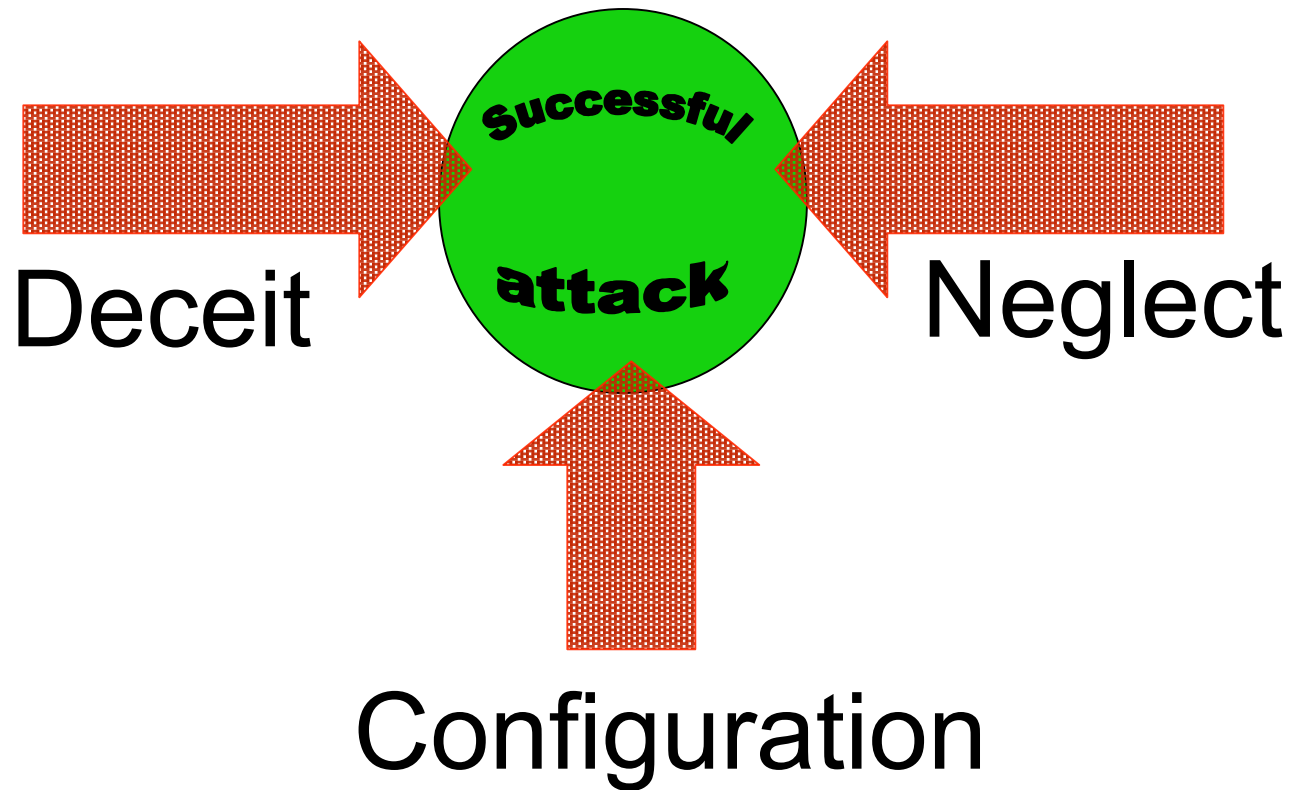
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markus@indiana.edu



Conventional Aspects of Security

- Computational assumptions
 - E.g., existence of a one-way function, RSA assumption, Decision Diffie-Hellman
- Adversarial model
 - E.g., access to data/hardware, ability to corrupt, communication assumptions, goals
- Verification methods
 - Cryptographic reductions to assumptions, BAN logic
- Implementation aspects
 - E.g., will the communication protocol leak information that is considered secret in the application layer?

The human factor of security



The human factor: configuration

Weak passwords

With Tsow, Yang, Wetzel: “Warkitting: the Drive-by Subversion of Wireless Home Routers”

(Journal of Digital Forensic Practice, Volume 1, Special Issue 3, November 2006)



Wireless
firmware update



wardriving
rootkitting

Shows that more than
50% of APs are vulnerable

The human factor: configuration

Weak passwords

With Stamm, Ramzan: “Drive-By Pharming”

(Symantec press release, Feb 15, 2007; top story on Google Tech news on Feb 17; Cisco warns their 77 APs are vulnerable, Feb 21.)

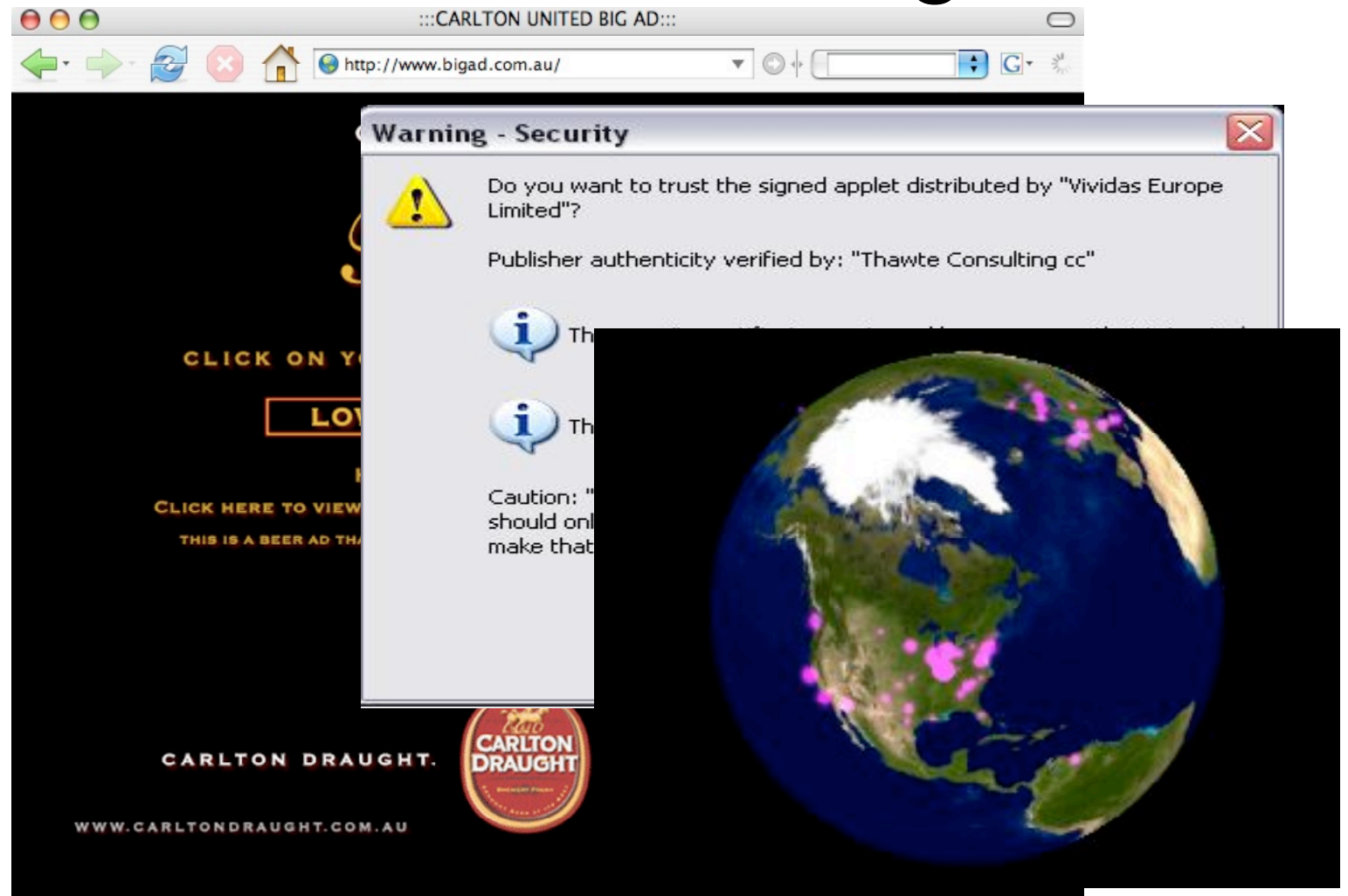


Wireless nvram
value setting



“Use DNS server x.x.x.x”

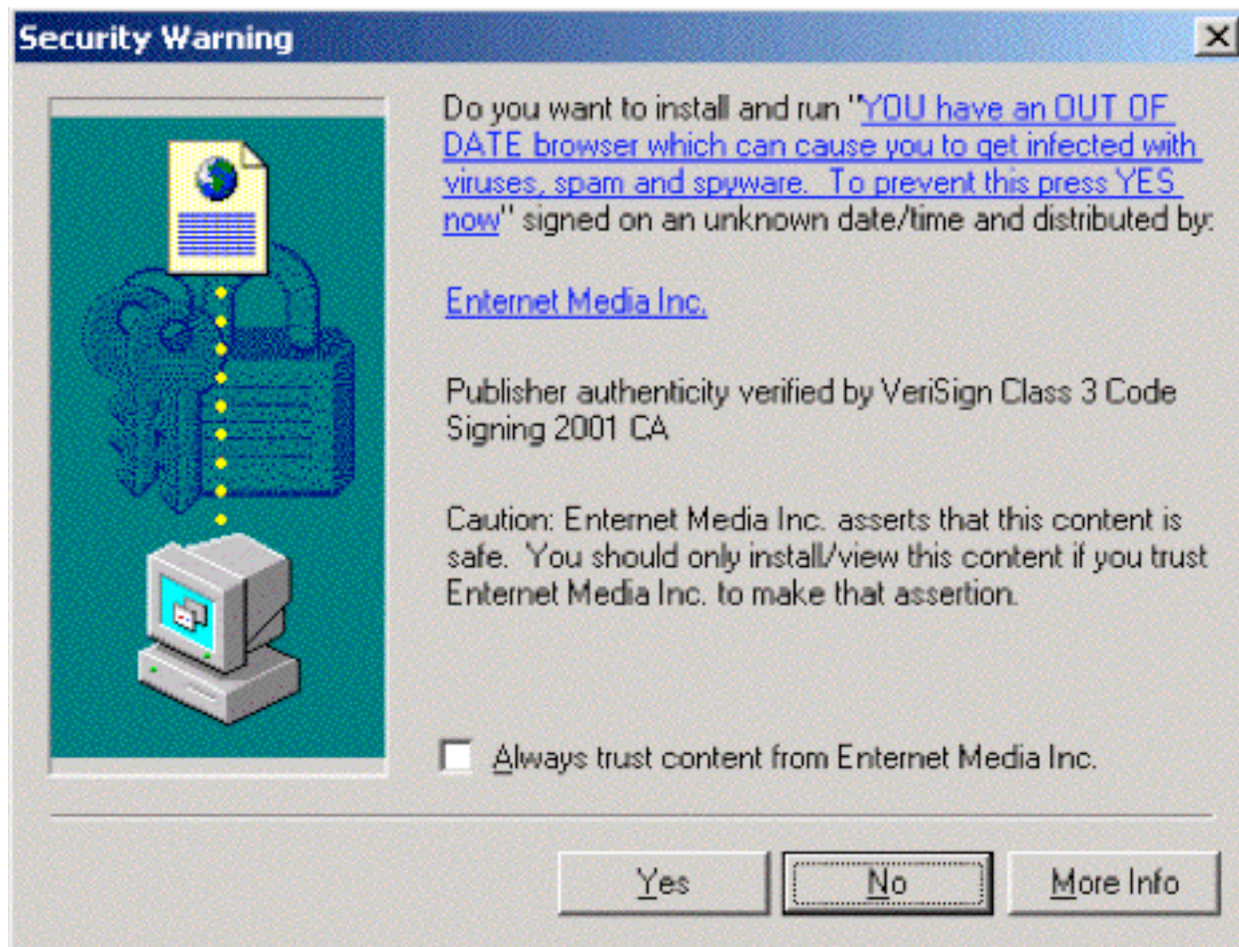
The human factor: neglect



With Stamm, Gandhi: "Socially Transmitted Malware"(in

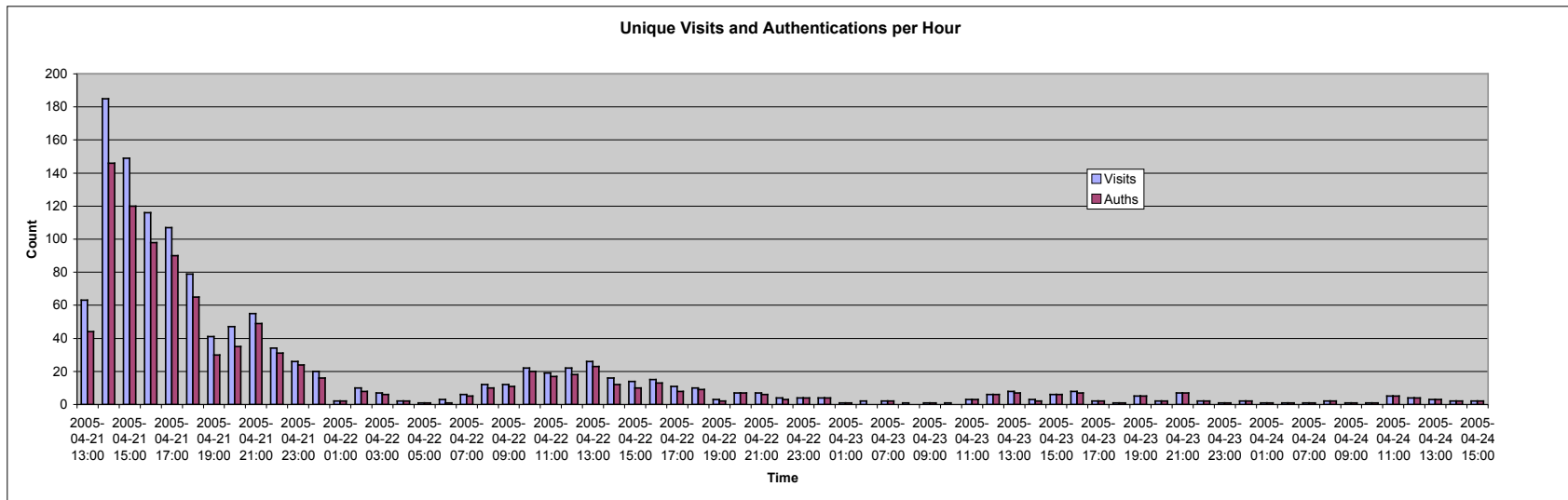


The human factor: deceit



(Threaten/disguise - image credit to Ben Edelman)

The human factor: deceit



Self: “Modeling and Preventing Phishing Attacks”

(Panel, Financial Crypto, 2005 - notion of spear phishing)

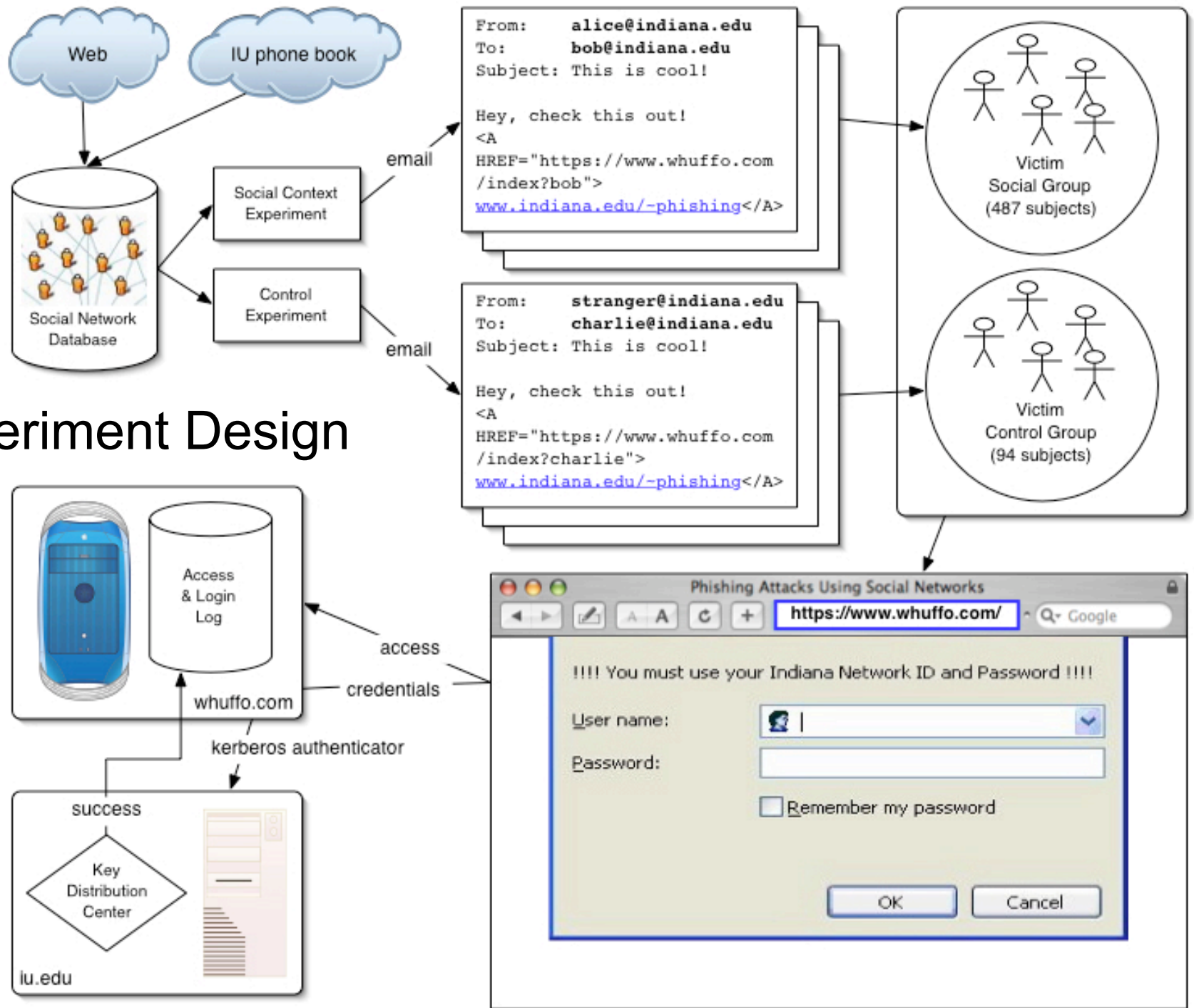
With Jagatic, Johnson, Menczer: “Social Phishing”

(To appear in the Communications of the ACM, Oct 2007)

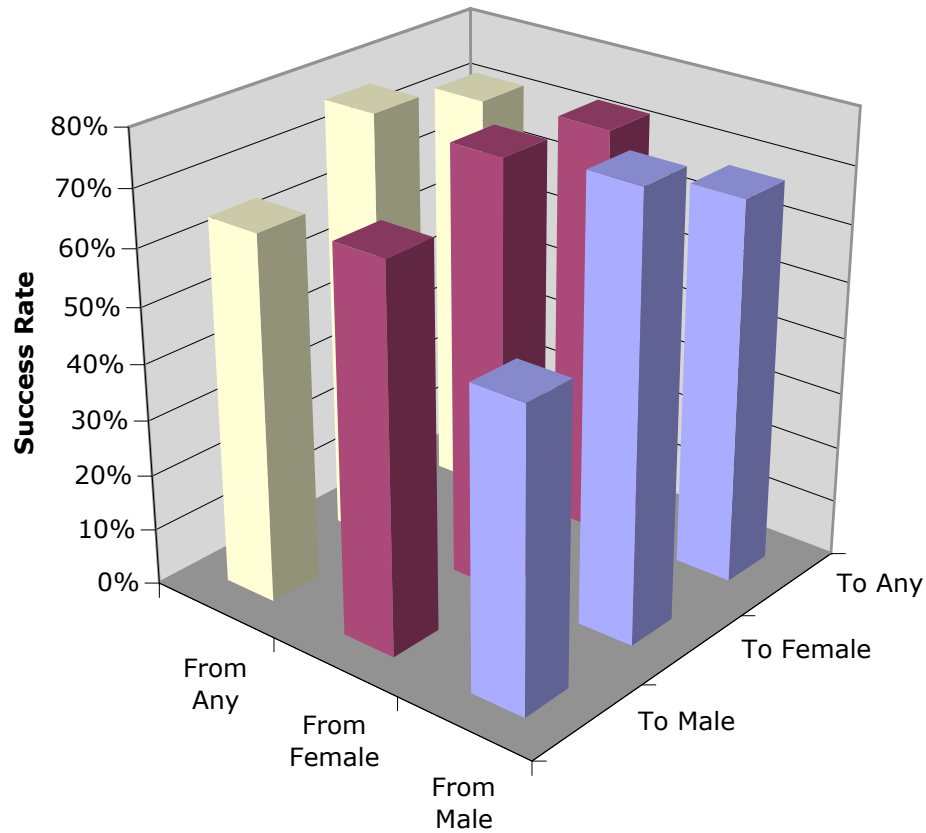
Self: “The Human Factor of Phishing”

(Invited paper, Privacy & Security of Consumer Information, 2007)

Experiment Design



Gender Effects



	To Male	To Female	To Any
From Male	53%	78%	68%
From Female	68%	76%	73%
From Any	65%	77%	72%



Most common expression of deceit:

Dear eBay Member,

We regret to inform you that your eBay account could be suspended if you don't re-update your account information.

To resolve this problem please visit link below and re-enter your account information:

https://signin.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?SignIn&sid=verify&co_partnerId=2&siteid=0

If your problems could not be resolved your account will be suspended for a period of 24 hours, after this period your account will be terminated.

For the User Agreement, Section 9, we may immediately issue a warning, temporarily suspend, indefinitely suspend or terminate your membership and refuse to provide our services to you if we believe that your actions may cause financial loss or legal liability for you, our users or us. We may also take these actions if we are unable to verify or authenticate any information you provide to us.

Due to the suspension of this account, please be any way. This includes the registering of a new a not relieve you of your agreed-upon obligation to p

Regards,

Safeharbor Department eBay, Inc

The eBay team

This is an automatic message, please do not reply

**Human factor beyond phishing:
Trusted computing, malware,
click-fraud**



From: Barclays
Subject: Security Precautions
Date: February 7, 2007 1:55:45 AM EST
To: Markus Jakobsson



Dear Barclays client,

When you recently logged in to our site, we detected that your F-secure Anti-Virus software is not correctly configured, or that you have not downloaded the latest update. You should do this as soon as possible to protect yourself.

Keep out fraud
Protect yourself from scam emails.
We'll never ask you to disclose all
your security details

[Find out more](#)

Click [here](#) or navigate to www.barclays-f-secure.com to update your protective shield.



Spear Phishing and Data Mining

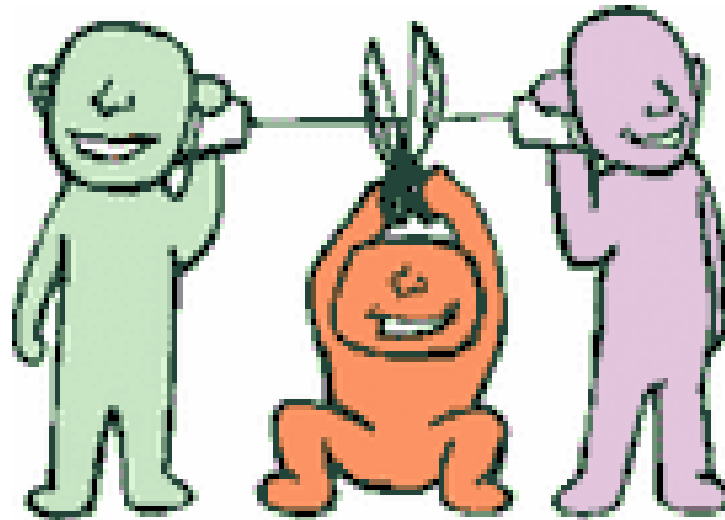
Current attack style:



Approx 3% of adult Americans report to have been victimized.

Spear Phishing and Data Mining

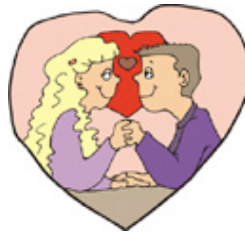
More sophisticated attack style:



“context aware attack”

How can information be derived?

Jane Smith



Jose Garcia

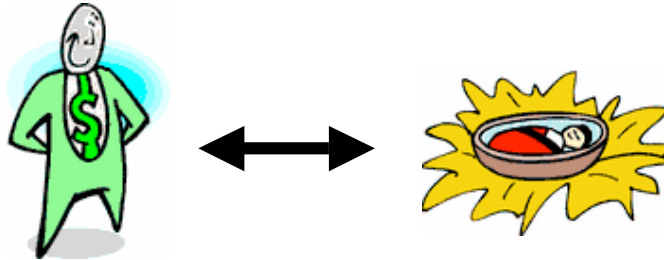


Jane Garcia, Jose Garcia



... and little Jimmy Garcia

Let's start from the end!



"Little" Jimmy

his parents



their marriage
license



and Jimmy's mother's maiden name: Smith

More reading: Griffith and Jakobsson, "Messin' with Texas: Deriving Mother's Maiden Names Using Public Records."

www.browser-recon.info

An illustrative example

Safari Users: Click [here](#) to reload this page.

If I were a phisher, I would be glad to know you bank with:

[[click to learn more](#)]



Demonstration: [View](#) all "sites of interest" within your own browser history.

Send a browser-recon.info link to a friend

Your Name:

Your Email:

Friend's Name:

Friend's Email:

Would you like to know if your friend has visited any "sites of interest?" yes no

Note: Only your name will be shared with the recipient of the message. Notification messages of friend browser history will only indicate if this technique was successful.

How to “auto-click”

The image shows a browser window displaying a Wiley.com page for the book "Phishing and Countermeasures: Understanding the Increasing Problem of Electronic Identity Theft". The page includes a sidebar with "Related Subjects" and "Related Titles". A red box highlights "Link 1" in the sidebar, with an arrow pointing to it from the text "Fake Click!". Another arrow points from the bottom of the page to the text "Read from page (same domain!) and make URL request".

Fake Click!

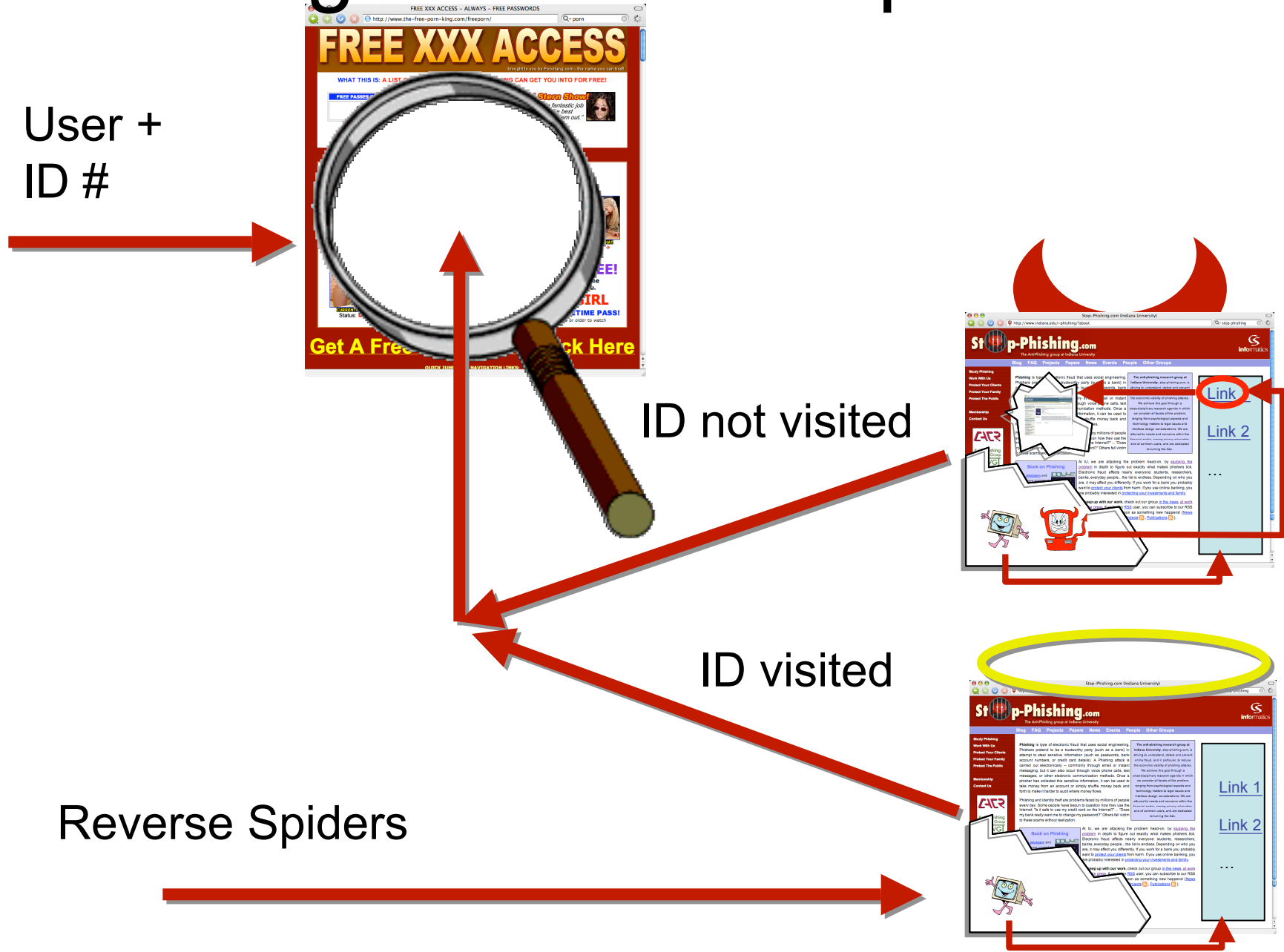
Read from page (same domain!) and make URL request

Hiding it from the user



Fake Click!

Hiding from service providers



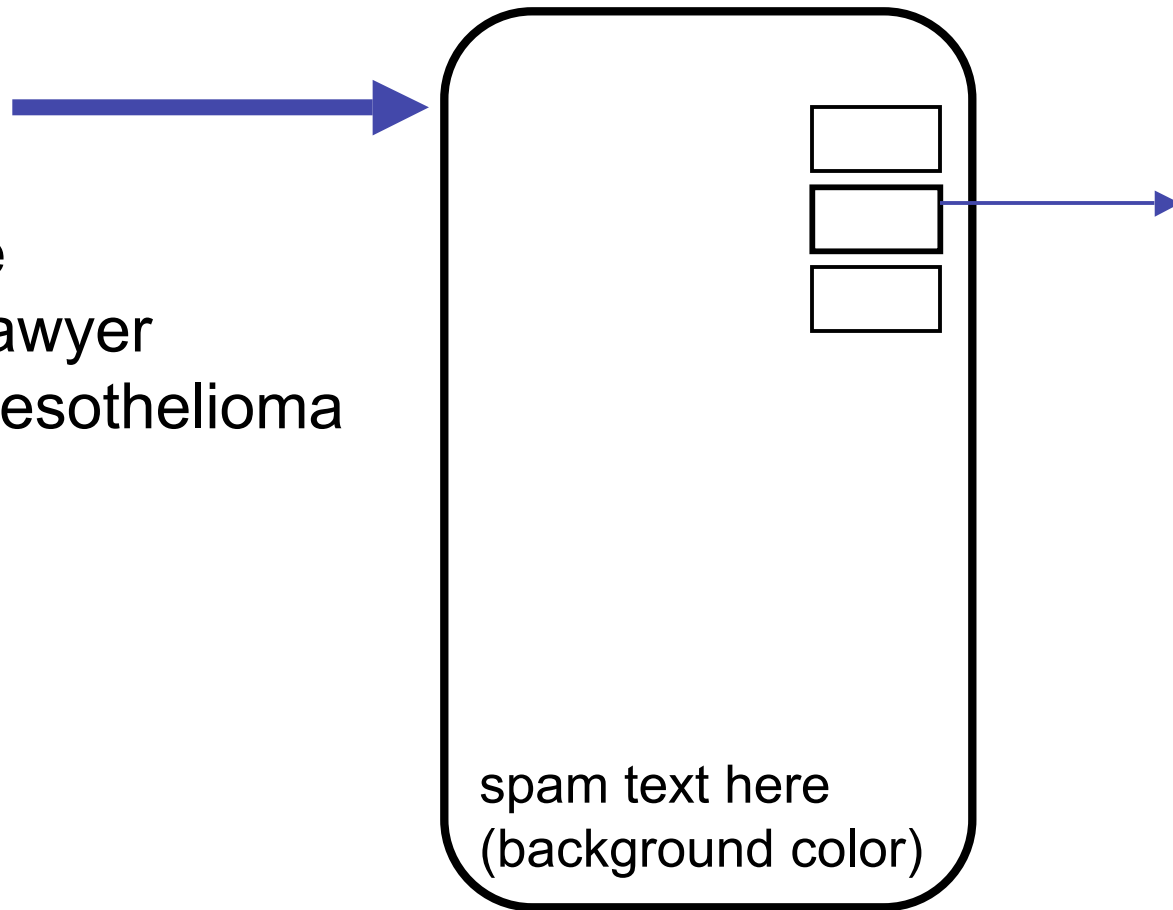
Avoiding screening of bad js

```
for( i= 1; i <= 10; i++ ){  
document.write( i );}
```

```
code = "f@o"+"#r(i@"+"#="+1+";@"+"i#<=1%0"+";i"  
+"+@#+){ @"+"d#oc"+"%um#"+"en%t."+"@w#r"  
+"i#te"+"(@i + ¥"<b" + "r>¥");}";  
eval(code.replace(/[@#%]/g, ""));
```

Possible attack: Using deceit

1. Legitimate
2. Attorney/lawyer
3. Asthma/mesothelioma



P

k:

... and if you are interested in adfraud
and how to stop it,
consider attending AdFraud '07
(September 14, Palo Alto, CA)
Organizers:
Dan Boneh and Markus Jakobsson

1. Legit
2. Attor
3. Asth



ere
(background color)

Big picture

Security & Crypto



Solve the right problem!

Psychology & HCI/D

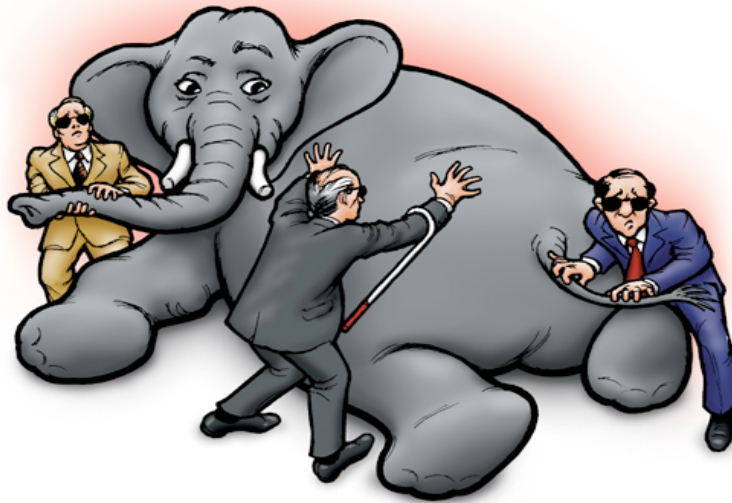
Attackers follow law
of least resistance.



Improved technology puts
pressure on other technology.

Core belief

People are *people*, not machines.



We need to measure vulnerabilities
(in-lab and naturalistically)
to understand the threat
and the efficacy of countermeasures.

Why do we need phishing experiments?

To improve phishing countermeasures, knowing what works and what does not.

Padlocks do not matter

Chase Personal Banking Investments Credit Cards Home Auto Commercial Small Business Insurance - Mozilla ...

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.chase.com/

CHASE Find ATM / Branches | Contact Us | Site Map | Search

Start banking online now
Get a User ID
GO

The Flexible RewardsSM Platinum Visa[®]
Earn **6 POINTS** for every \$1 spent at gas stations, drug stores and grocery stores.
Learn More

Returning Users: Log On

User ID:
Password:
 Remember my User ID
[Forgot User ID/Password?](#)
Log On

Personal Banking

- ▶ Checking
- ▶ Credit Cards
- ▶ Savings
- ▶ CDs
- ▶ Online Banking & Bill Pay

Business

- ▶ Small Business Banking
Revenues up to \$10MM
- ▶ Commercial Banking
Revenues over \$10MM

Personal Lending

- ▶ Home Equity
- ▶ Mortgage
- ▶ Auto/Vehicle Loans
- ▶ Student Loans

Insurance & Investing

- ▶ Insurance
- ▶ Investing
- ▶ Retirement Planning

Tell me about...

- ▶ **Premier Platinum Banking**
Exclusive banking and investment benefits for clients with higher balances

News & Announcements

- ▶ **U.S. Armed Forces Overseas**
Please contact us if you need assistance with your Chase or Bank One accounts.
- ▶ Chase offers Zero-Fees!
For academic year 2006-2007 the origination fee will be paid on all Federal Stafford Loans that Chase funds directly to students.
- ▶ Fair Lending & HMDA Data

Security Center Highlights

Chase helps keep you safe and informed.

- ▶ Scams involving advance fees and cashier's checks
- ▶ Other online fraud and e-mail scams
- ▶ Ways we protect you
- ▶ How you can protect yourself

Online Bill Pay
Fast, Convenient, Guaranteed.SM
Gives you more time for the things you really enjoy.

earn free toys gas magic cash shipping coffee etc clothes cosmetics retail dining tickets books toys
browse rewards cards

Chase.com Ranked #1

According to the Keynote® March 2006 WebExcellence rankings of consumer online banking sites.

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Done

Chase Personal Banking Investments Credit Cards Home Auto Commercial Small Business Insurance - Mozilla ...

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.chase.com/

CHASE Find ATM / Branches | Contact Us | Site Map | Search

Start banking online now
Get a User ID
GO

The Flexible RewardsSM Platinum Visa[®]
Earn **6 POINTS** for every \$1 spent at gas stations, drug stores and grocery stores.
Learn More

Returning Users: Log On

User ID:
Password:
 Remember my User ID
[Forgot User ID/Password?](#)
Log On

Personal Banking

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browse rewards cards

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Done

(Clean) URLs matter

<https://www.accountonline.com/View?DocId=Index\&siteId=AC\&langID=EN>

significantly less (with $p < 0.004$)
trustworthy than

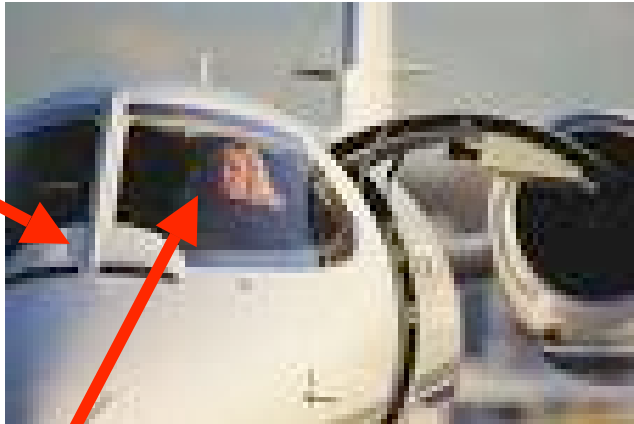
<http://www.attuniversalcard.com>

Why do we need phishing experiments?

To improve security education

Why do we need Internet security education?

Airplane with all security features that will ever exist



Pilot who can be tricked that down is up

Traditional Education

RD | JUNE 2006

Thieves target account information embedded in ATM, debit and credit cards by breaking into or otherwise compromising the equipment and systems used for processing payments.

In March, for example, Citibank announced it was reissuing an unspecified number of ATM cards in Canada and overseas. The cards had stopped working for withdrawals.

Avivah Litan, a Gartner analyst, says the culprit was most likely "PIN block" card fraud, which she expects to see a lot of in the near future.

In a PIN block theft, hackers break into computer servers used by retail-

one on one of the online forums where thieves meet. Yet another person might have created a counterfeit card using my info, and sold it to the person who tried to buy the money order.

But that's just one scenario: Larkin notes that with ID theft, "the trail is becoming more and more complex."

Unwanted Guests

Another ripe target for identity thieves: the wireless networks that more and more computer users are setting up at home. A failure to block access to these networks can allow prying eyes into your hard drive.

Install security software and stay current with the latest patches

made. At the same time, and off the same servers, thieves swipe the key

Even people who are diligent about regularly updating their firewall and

Beat the Thieves

- Install security software and stay current with the latest patches.
- Always be suspicious of unsolicited e-mail.
- Monitor the volume and origin of pop-up ads. A change may signal something sinister.
- Visit the FBI's new website, lookstoogoodtobetrue.gov, for tips.
- Use debit cards like credit cards, i.e., with a signature, not a PIN code.
- If you live in one of the 20 states where it's possible, place a freeze on credit reports. This stops any credit activity in your name unless you specifically initiate it.
- Keep an eye out for "skimmers" lurking in places where you use cards.
- Enable encryption on wireless routers immediately upon setting up a home network.
- Shop only on secure websites (look for the padlock or "https" in the address bar); use credit, not debit, cards; don't store your financial info in an "account" on the website.

man in the parked car. Benjamin Smith posing instead as local credit unions

Always be suspicious of unsolicited email.

tion, they can easily create counterfeit debit cards, which they use to clean

Last November, Symantec personnel conducted an exercise in New

say, indicated he'd downloaded child pornography. (Smith has pleaded not

working sites like MySpace.com, again in an attempt to exploit users' trust.

Monitor the volume and origin of pop-up ads.

ing. It's simple: Compared to credit cards, "they're better for getting cash."

to their car, they drove through six different residential neighborhoods.

The Next Targets

Where will the bad guys turn next?

sign. Burt Kaliski, vice president for RSA Security, believes it shows that

That doesn't mean credit card data

Of the 5,700 wireless access points

handhelds (like blackberrys) are becoming increasingly vulnerable to hackers and viruses."

the fraudsters to get people to fall for their tricks," he says. That doesn't mean it's time to become less vigilant

(look for the padlock or "https" in the address bar)

crime unit chief Dan Larkin says that's one possible explanation for my Visa problem. Or it could be that my account information was skimmed with a handheld device that can pull data

able to anyone who wanted to hop on.

An unsecure wireless access point can open the door to more than just data theft. Last April, a St. Petersburg, Florida, man grew wary after spotting

saging (IM) becoming a popular get. With its built-in "buddy lists," it has a cozy feel that cybercrooks find attractive. "The big thing about IM that has not been exploited yet," he says, "is that people trust it."

tion—increased encryption and identification methods—from those they do business with online.

Even more encouraging: Authorities are getting better at catching high-

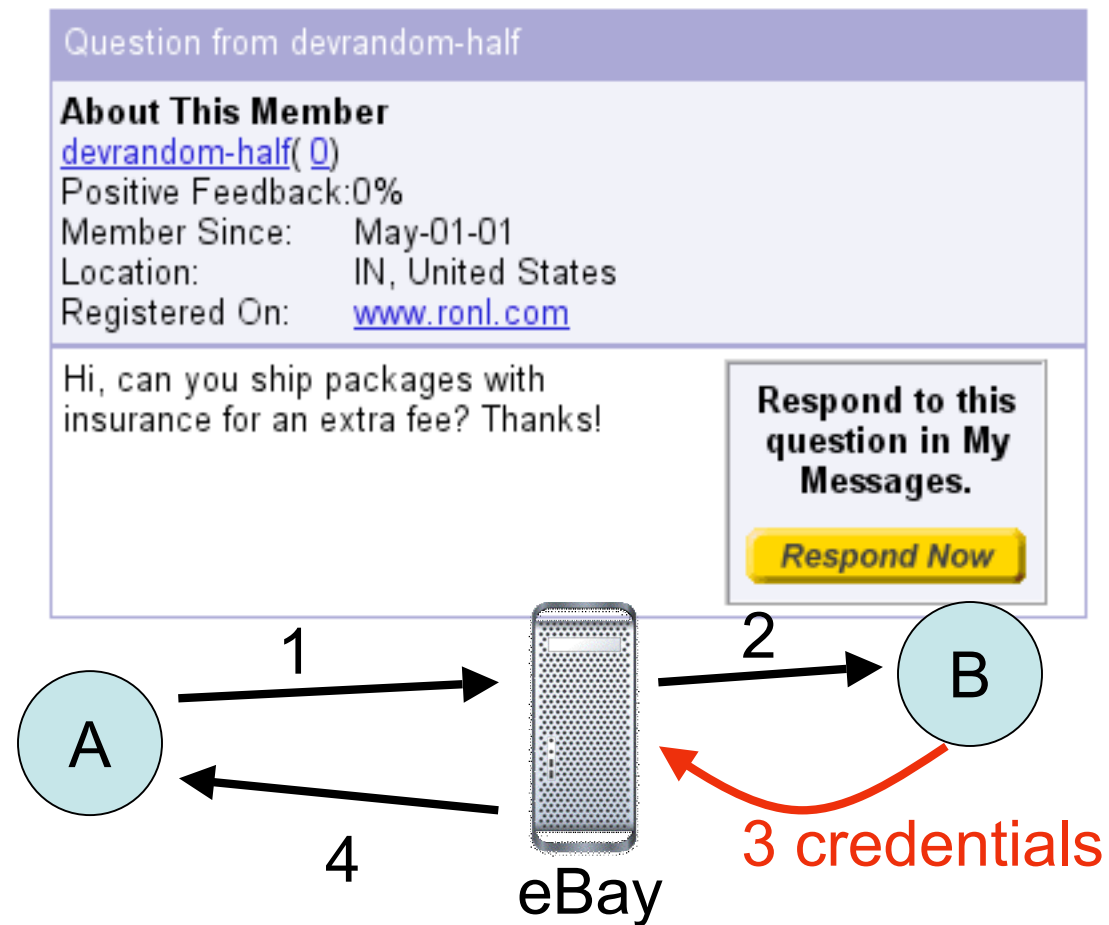
Why do we need phishing experiments?

To predict trends, knowing what the yet not exploited human vulnerabilities are.

Ethical and accurate assessments

With Ratkiewicz “Designing Ethical Phishing Experiments:
A study of (ROT13) rOnl auction query features” (WWW, 2006)

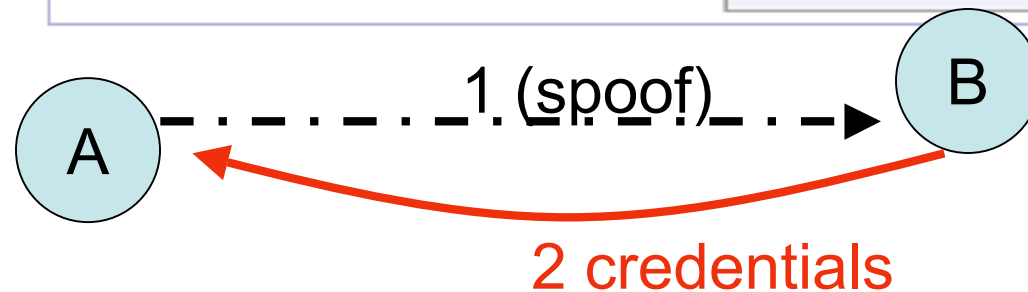
Reality:



Ethical and accurate assessments

With Ratkiewicz “Designing Ethical Phishing Experiments:
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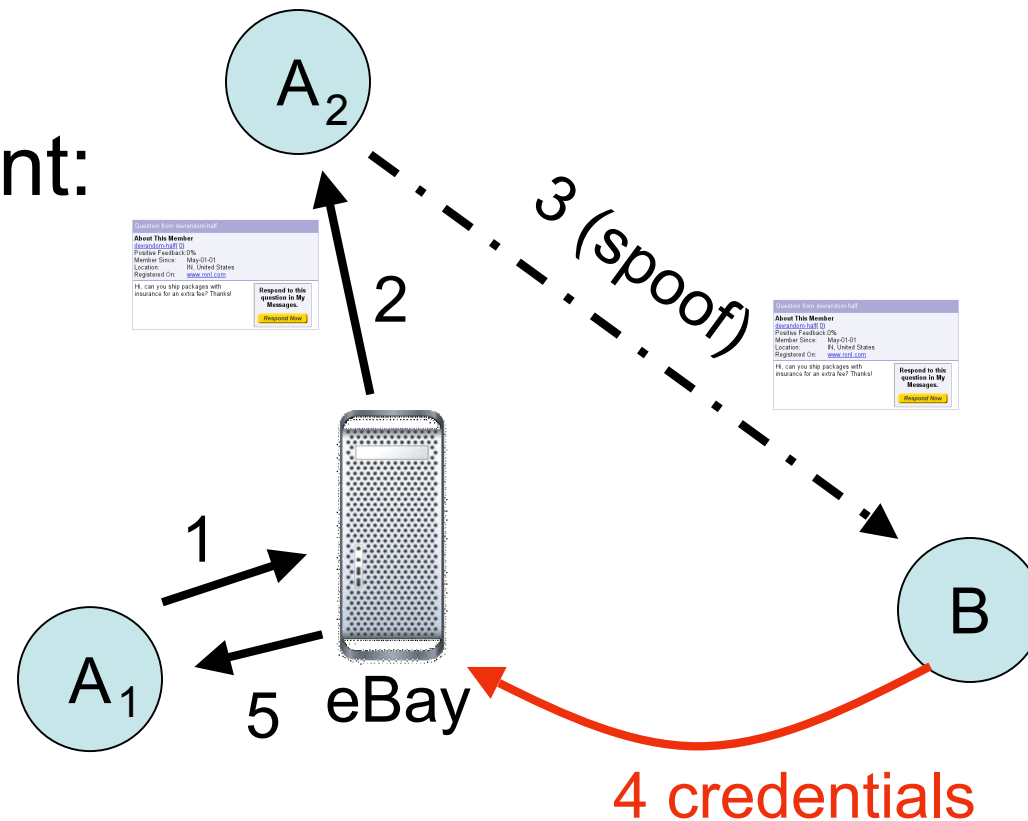
Attack:



Ethical and accurate assessments

With Ratkiewicz “Designing Ethical Phishing Experiments:
A study of (ROT13) rOnI auction query features” (WWW, 2006)

Experiment:



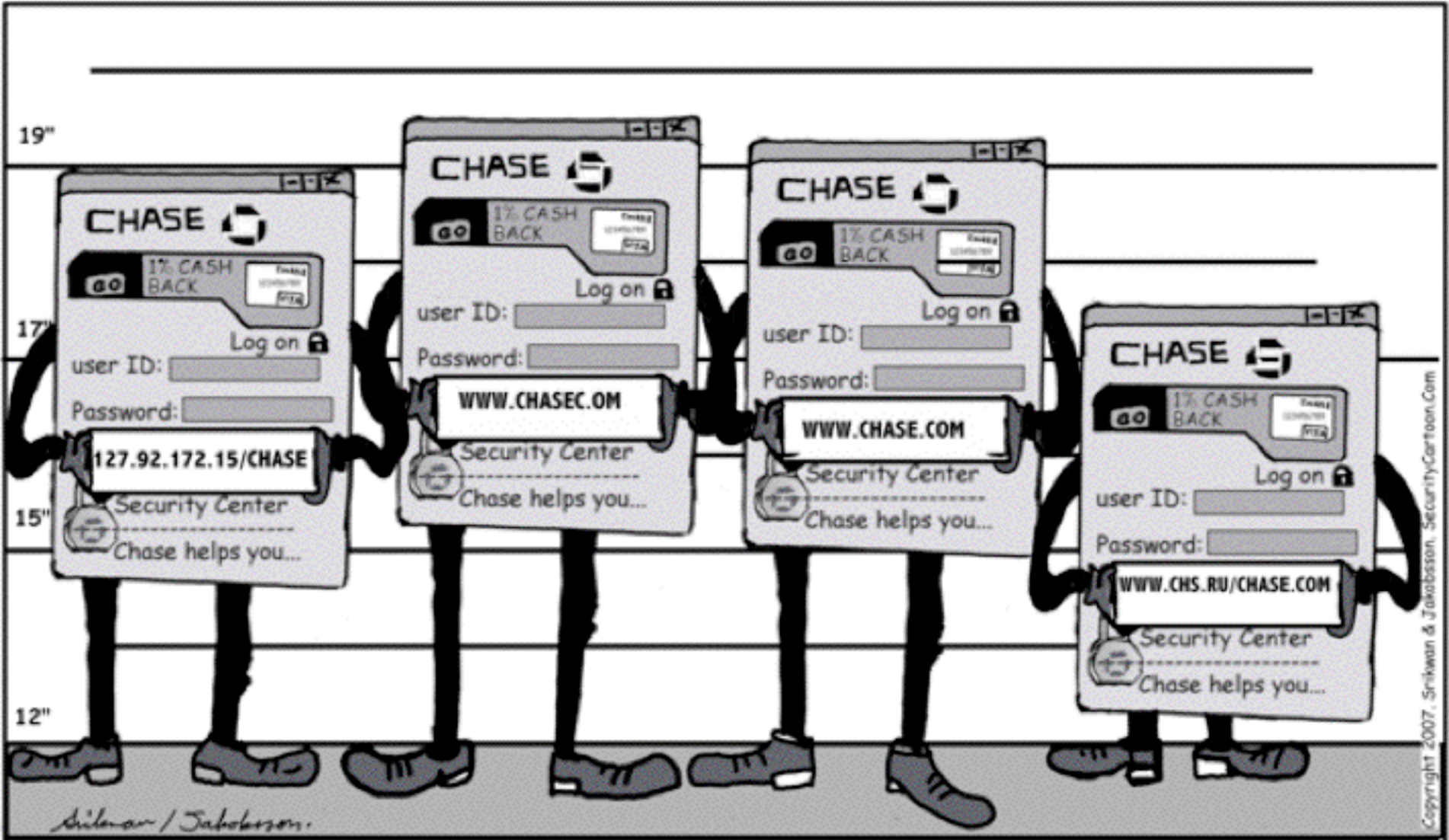
Yield (incl spam filtering loss): 11% \pm 3% ... “eBay greeting” removed: same

Mutual authentication in the “real world”

With Tsow, Shah, Blevis, Lim, “What Instills Trust? A Qualitative Study of Phishing” (Abstract at Usable Security, 2007)

With Alex Tsow, “Deceit and Deception: A Large User Study of Phishing” (in submission)





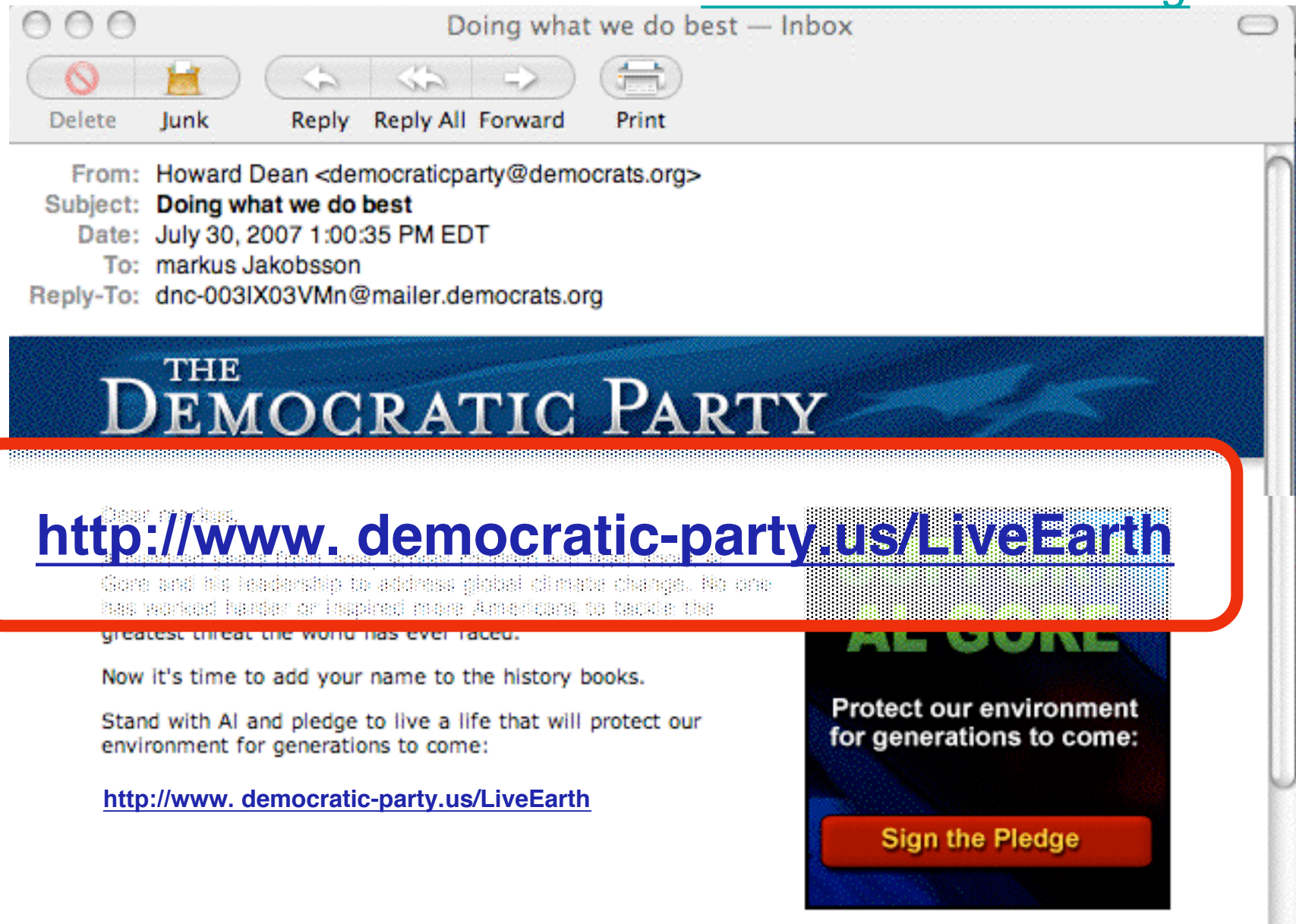
"SO, WHICH ONE WAS IT THAT ROBBED YOU?"

www.SecurityCartoon.com

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And next? *Politishing?*

Annotated slides available at www.human-factor.org



Doing what we do best — Inbox

Delete Junk Reply Reply All Forward Print

From: Howard Dean <democraticparty@democrats.org>
Subject: **Doing what we do best**
Date: July 30, 2007 1:00:35 PM EDT
To: markus Jakobsson
Reply-To: dnc-003IX03VMn@mailier.democrats.org

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

<http://www.democratic-party.us/LiveEarth>

Gore and his leadership to address global climate change. No one has worked harder or inspired more Americans to tackle the greatest threat the world has ever faced.

Now it's time to add your name to the history books.

Stand with Al and pledge to live a life that will protect our environment for generations to come:

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AL GORE

Protect our environment for generations to come:

Sign the Pledge