

Leaky Forms: A Study of Email and Password Exfiltration Before Form Submission

Asuman Senol

imec-COSIC, KU Leuven

asuman.senol@esat.kuleuven.be

Gunes Acar

Radboud University

g.acar@cs.ru.nl

Mathias Humbert

University of Lausanne

mathias.humbert@unil.ch

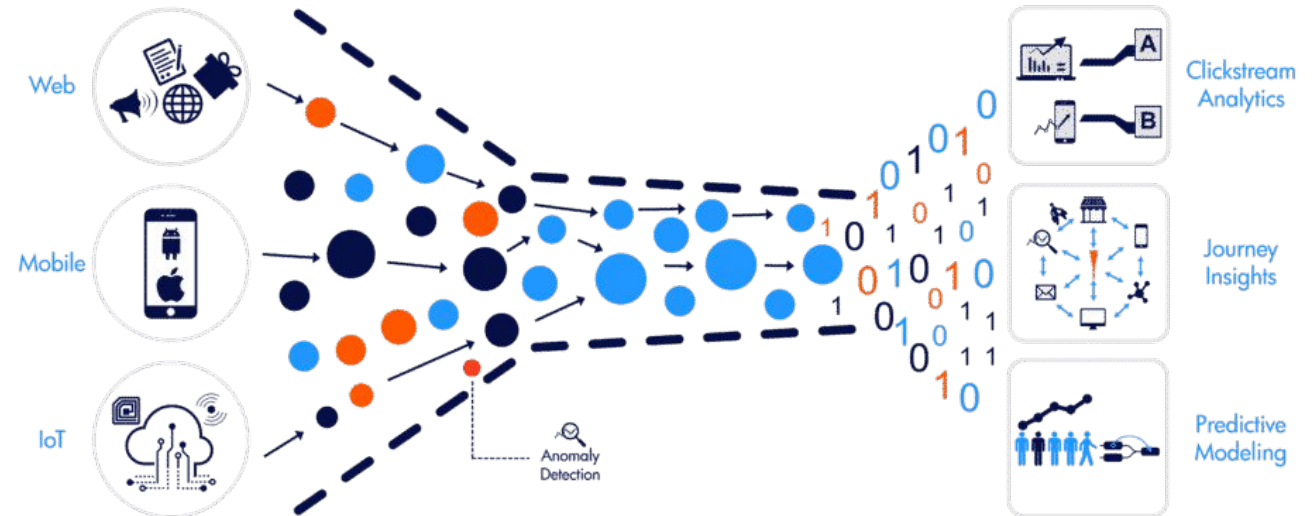
Frederik Zuiderveen Borgesius

Radboud University

frederikzb@cs.ru.nl

Background

- Websites use advertising and marketing for monetization
 - built-in anti-tracking countermeasures
 - potential third-party cookie phase-out
- Tracking by email addresses
 - enables cross-site, cross-platform, persistent tracking



<https://medium.com/@ugurekmekci/real-time-user-activity-tracking-w-divolte-collector-and-kafka-d8c106313400>

Motivation

- PII collection before form submission on a mortgage calculator website (Gizmodo, 2017)
- A 2018 survey (n=502):
 - 81% abandoned forms at least once
 - 59% abandoned a form in the last month [6].

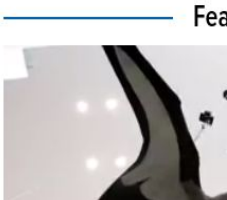
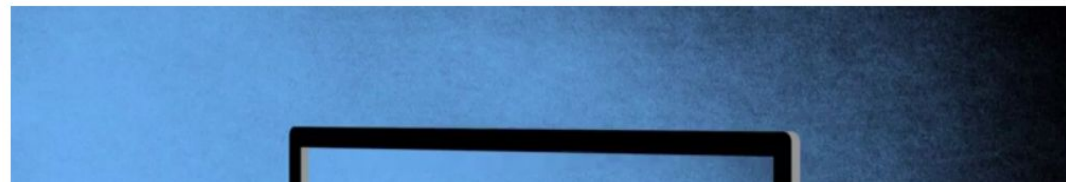
GIZMODO

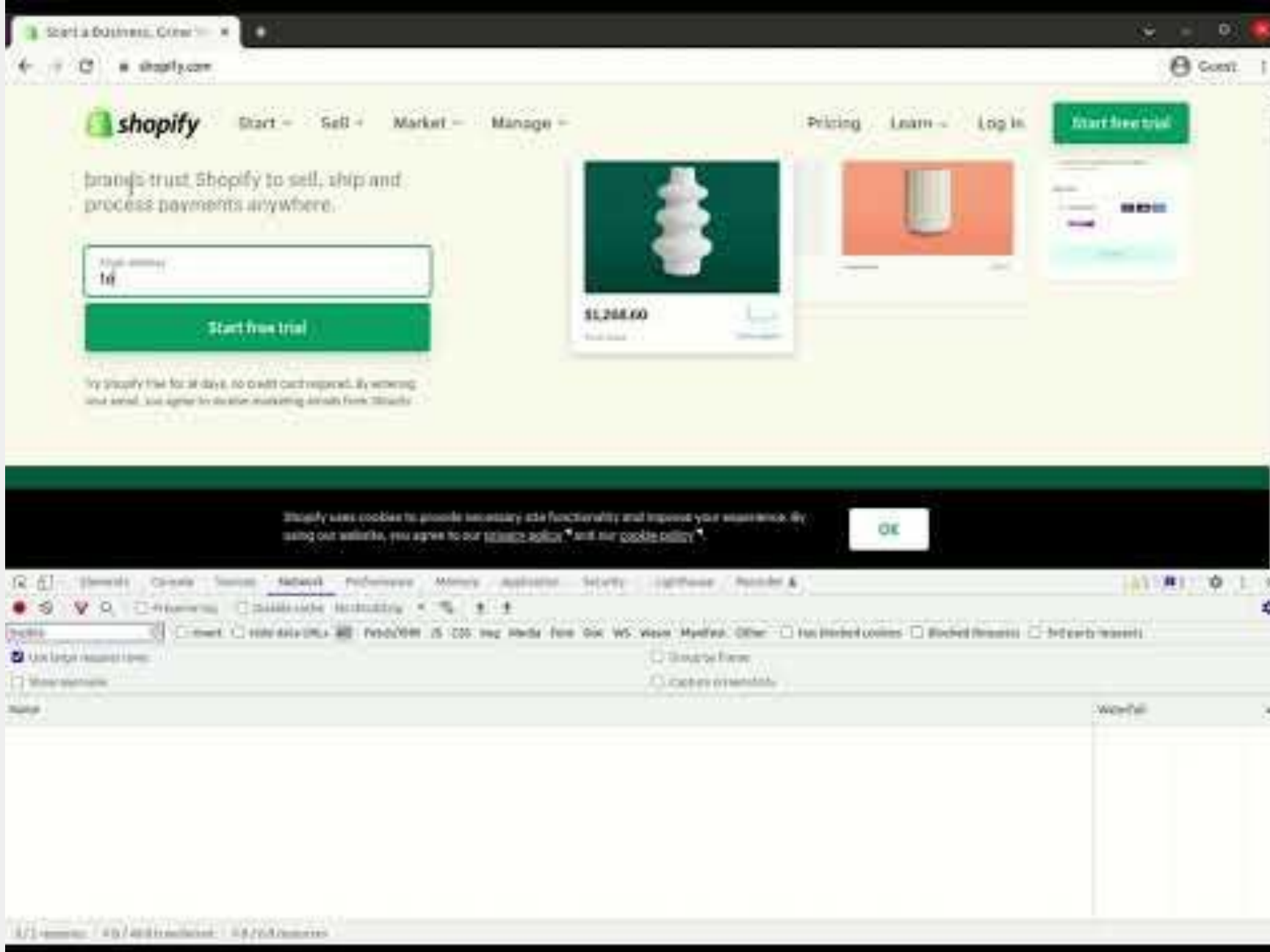
HOME LATEST TECH NEWS REVIEWS SCIENCE EARTHER 109

GIZMODO ORIGINALS

Before You Hit 'Submit,' This Company Has Already Logged Your Personal Data

By Surya Mattu and Kashmir Hill | 6/20/17 2:23PM | Comments (103)





Objectives

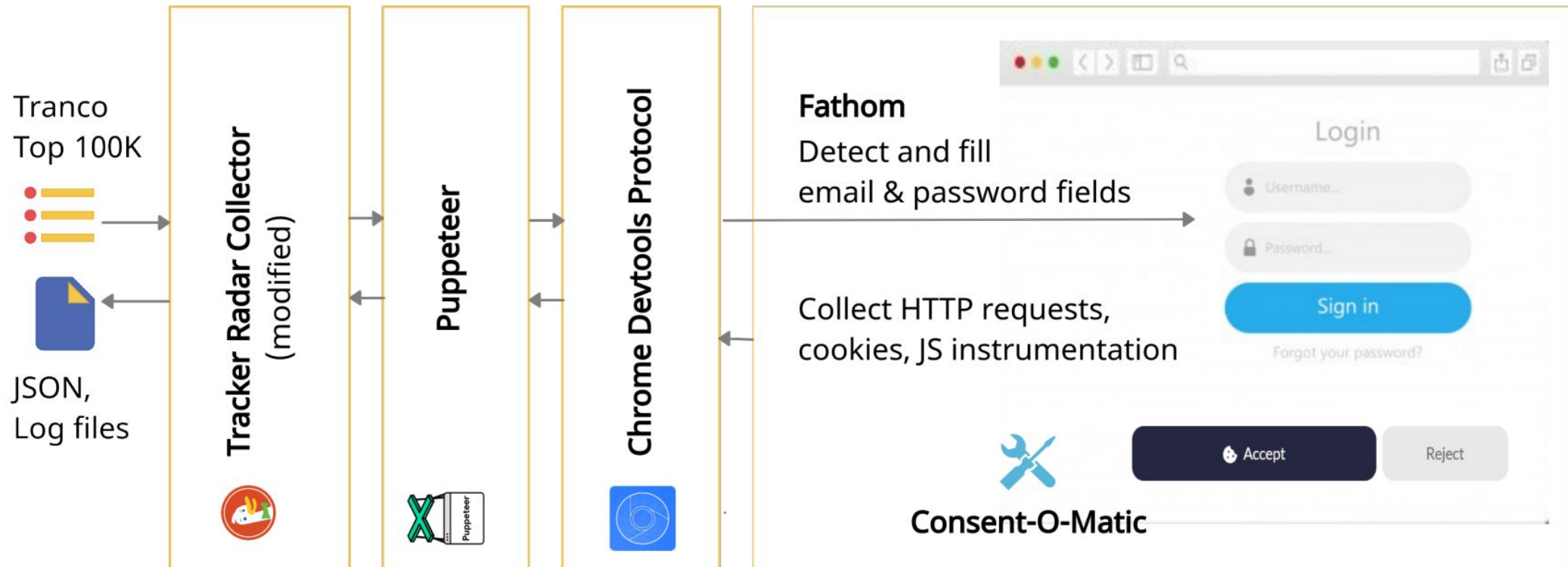
- Measure email and password collection prior to form submission
 - effect of location: EU vs. US
 - effect of consent
 - mobile vs. desktop

The image shows a browser window with two tabs: 'New Tab' and 'LZString compress/decon'. The address bar contains the text 'Search Google or type a URL'. The main content area displays a message: 'You're browsing as a Guest' followed by a paragraph explaining that pages viewed in this window won't appear in the browser history and won't leave traces like cookies. A 'Learn more' link is provided below the text.

The Chrome DevTools interface is open at the bottom, with the 'Network' tab selected. The filter bar shows 'bounce' in the search field and 'All' selected for the filter type. Other filter options include 'Fetch/XHR', 'JS', 'CSS', 'Img', 'Media', 'Font', 'Doc', 'WS', 'Wasm', 'Manifest', and 'Other'. There are also checkboxes for 'Has blocked cookies', 'Blocked Requests', and '3rd-party requests'. Below the filter bar, there are checkboxes for 'Use large request rows', 'Show overview', 'Group by frame', and 'Capture screenshots'. The main area of the DevTools shows the text: 'Recording network activity... Perform a request or hit **Ctrl+R** to record the reload.' with a 'Learn more' link below it.

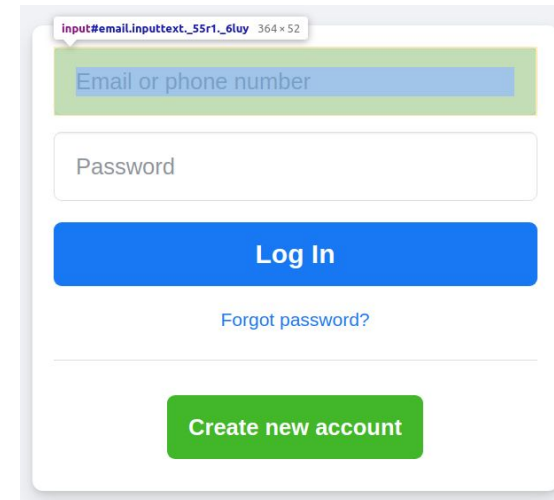
Method – Web Crawler

- Built on Tracker Radar Collector (developed by DuckDuckGo)



Method – Email field detection

- **Fathom:** A supervised learning framework specialized to detect webpage parts [8]

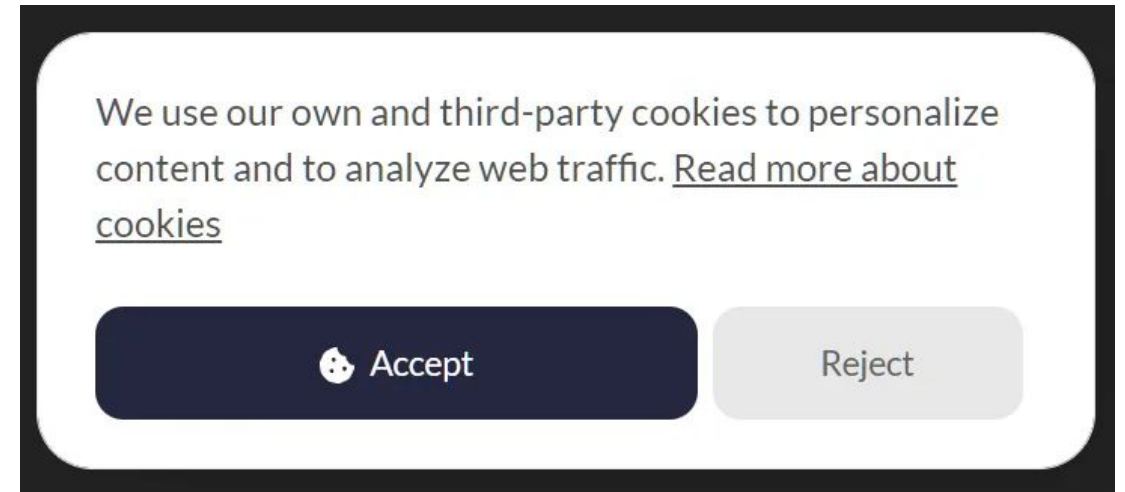


A screenshot of a login form. At the top, there is a small tooltip that says "input#email.inputtext_55r1_6luy 364 x 52". Below it is a text input field with the placeholder text "Email or phone number". Underneath that is a "Password" input field. A blue "Log In" button is centered below the password field. Below the button is a link that says "Forgot password?". At the bottom of the form is a green "Create new account" button.

```
▼ <div class="_6lux">  
  <input type="text" class="inputtext_55r1_6luy" name="email" id="email" data-testid="royal_email" placeholder="Email or phone number" autofocus="1" aria-label="Email or phone number"> == $0
```

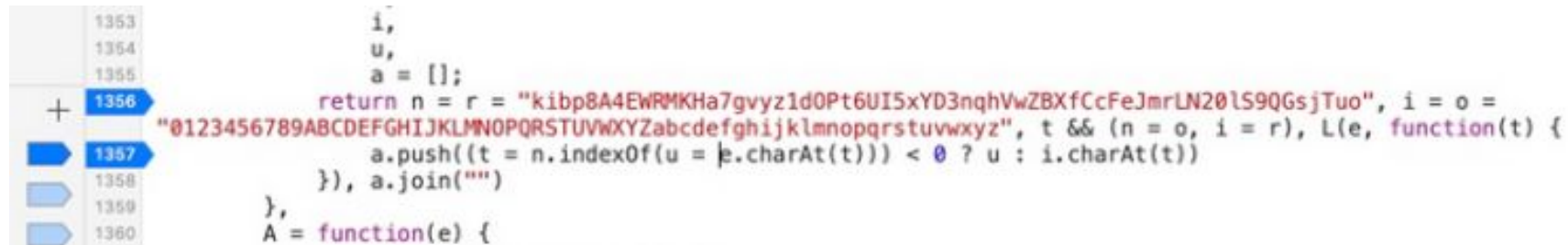

Method – CMP detection

- **Consent-O-Matic:** browser extension that can recognize and interact with Consent Management Provider (CMP) pop-ups [7]
- Consent modes:
 - No-action
 - Accept-all
 - Reject-all
- $\approx 7,700/100K$



Method – Leak Detection

- Based on Englehardt et al.'s method [3]
 - search for different encodings and hashes of search terms
- Identified two new encodings and a hashing method
 - LZString, custom mapping, hashing with a fixed salt



```
1353     i,  
1354     u,  
1355     a = [];  
+ 1356     return n = r = "kibp8A4EWRMKHa7gvyz1d0Pt6UI5xYD3nqhVwZBXfCcFeJmrLN20lS9QGsjTuo", i = o =  
1357     "0123456789ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz", t && (n = o, i = r), L(e, function(t) {  
1358         a.push((t = n.indexOf(u = e.charAt(t))) < 0 ? u : i.charAt(t))  
1359     }), a.join(""))  
1360 },  
A = function(e) {
```

Method – Tracker Labeling

- Only considered leaks to tracker domains
- Block-lists we used:
 - Disconnect
 - Whotracks.me
 - DuckDuckGo (tds.json)
 - uBlock Origin
 - + Manual labeling

Crawls

- 8 Crawls, 100K websites, 2.8M pages, May & June 2021
- 2 locations: EU (Frankfurt), US (NYC)
- 3 consent modes:
 - no action (100K)
 - accept all (7,220)
 - reject all (7,220)
- Mobile
 - EU, US
 - 100K – no action

Dataset

Crawl Option	EU				US			
	No Action	Accept All	Reject All	Mobile	No Action	Accept All	Reject All	Mobile
Crawled URLs	100K	7,720	7,720	100K	100K	7,720	7,720	100K
Successfully loaded websites	99,380	7,716	7,716	99,363	99,437	7,714	7,716	99,409
Crawled pages	625,143	44,752	40,385	597,791	690,394	51,735	49,260	668,848
Websites where we filled email	52,055	5,076	5,115	47,825	53,038	5,071	5,077	49,615
Websites where we filled password	31,002	2,306	2,342	29,422	31,324	2,263	2,283	30,356

Overview of crawl statistics based on servers located in EU and the USA

Results - Leaks

	EU			US		
	All	Third party	Tracking related	All	Third party	Tracking related
Email	4,395	2,633	1,844	5,518	3,790	2,950
Password	88	86	46	92	87	48

- Discovered 41 unlisted tracker domains

Results - Email Leaks

EU							US					
Leak Type	Entity Name	Tracker Domain	Key by key	Num. sites	Prom.	Min. Rank	Entity Name	Tracker Domain	Key by key	Num. sites	Prom.	Min. Rank
email	Taboola	taboola.com	No	327	302.9	154	TowerData	rlcdn.com	No	524	553.8	217
	Adobe	bizable.com	Yes	160	173.0	242	Taboola	taboola.com	No	383	499.0	95
	FullStory	fullstory.com	Yes	182	75.6	1,311	Bounce Exchange	bouncex.net	No	189	224.7	191
	Awin Inc.	zenaps.com*	No	113	48.7	2,043	Adobe	bizable.com	Yes	191	212.0	242
		awin1.com*	No	112	48.5	2,043	Awin	zenaps.com*	No	119	111.2	196
	Yandex	yandex.com	Yes	121	41.9	1,688	Awin	awin1.com*	No	118	110.9	196
	AdRoll	adroll.com	No	117	39.6	3,753	FullStory	fullstory.com	Yes	230	105.6	1,311
	Glassbox	glassboxdigital.io*	Yes	6	31.9	328	Listrak	listrakbi.com	Yes	226	66.0	1,403
	Listrak	listrakbi.com	Yes	91	24.9	2,219	LiveRamp	pippio.com	No	138	65.1	567
	Oracle	bronto.com	Yes	90	24.6	2,332	SmarterHQ	smarterhq.io*	Yes	32	63.8	556
	TowerData	rlcdn.com	No	11	20.0	567	Verizon Media	yahoo.com*	Yes	255	62.3	4,281
	SaleCycle	salecycle.com	Yes	35	17.5	2,577	AdRoll	adroll.com	No	122	48.6	2,343
	Automattic	gravatar.com*	Yes	38	16.7	2,048	Yandex	yandex.ru	Yes	141	48.1	1,648
	Facebook	facebook.com	Yes	21	14.8	1,153	Criteo SA	criteo.com*	No	134	46.0	1,403
	Salesforce	pardot.com*	Yes	36	30.8	2,675	Neustar	agkn.com*	No	133	45.9	1,403
	Oktopost	okt.to*	Yes	31	11.4	6,589	Oracle	addthis.com	No	133	45.9	1,403

Answers to Your Top Questions About Hashed Email [Video]

November 24, 2015 By [Phil Davis](#)



Did you know your subscribers leave a digital fingerprint behind on all their online activities? Even better, did you know you already have everything you need to access this information?



Email hashing is the perfect way to connect the dots on customer behavior—across



Home > ... > Lookalike Targeting

Taboola Ads

Getting Started

Create & Manage Great Campaigns ▼

Create A New Campaign

Edit Campaigns

Campaign Targeting Options ▼

Send your 1st Party Audiences
via DMP or MMP

Lookalike Targeting

Look-alike models are used to increase scale by finding new people likely to be interested in your business because they resemble existing customers.

Use your CRM data to create lookalike audiences on Taboola! You can upload either a customer list of hashed email addresses, mobile device IDs, or 5 digit US zip codes and Taboola's predictive engine will find similar users that are more likely to convert based on the assumption that these users will be "like" your current customers in your database.

Visit our Advertiser Data Use Policy [here](#).

[Create and manage accounts](#)[Publish and distribute content](#)[Advertise](#)[Sell on Facebook and Instagram](#)[Monetise your content or app](#)

Business Help Centre



About advanced matching for web

15,463 views

Advanced matching can help you optimise your Meta ads to drive better results. With advanced matching, you can send us hashed customer information along with your pixel events, which can help you attribute more conversions and reach more [people](#). We hash the customer information on the website before they're sent to Facebook to help protect user privacy.

You can use advanced matching to help:



Tru

The image shows a browser window with several tabs: 'New Tab', 'SHA256 Online', 'MD5 Online', and 'SHA1 Online'. The address bar contains the text 'Search Google or type a URL' and the user is logged in as 'Guest'. The main content area displays a message: 'You're browsing as a Guest' followed by a paragraph explaining that pages viewed in this window won't appear in the browser history and won't leave traces like cookies. A 'Learn more' link is provided below the text.

The Chrome DevTools Network tab is open, showing a filter for 'All' requests. The filter bar includes options for 'Fetch/XHR', 'JS', 'CSS', 'Img', 'Media', 'Font', 'Doc', 'WS', 'Wasm', 'Manifest', and 'Other'. There are also checkboxes for 'Has blocked cookies', 'Blocked Requests', and '3rd-party requests'. Below the filter bar, there are checkboxes for 'Use large request rows', 'Show overview', 'Group by frame', and 'Capture screenshots'. The main area of the Network tab displays the message: 'Recording network activity... Perform a request or hit **Ctrl+R** to record the reload.' with a 'Learn more' link below it.

The image shows a browser window with two tabs: 'New Tab' and 'LZString compress/decon'. The address bar contains 'Search Google or type a URL'. The main content area displays a message: 'You're browsing as a Guest' with a sub-message: 'Pages you view in this window won't appear in the browser history and they won't leave other traces, like cookies, on the computer after you close all open Guest windows. Any files you download will be preserved, however.' A 'Learn more' link is present below the text.

The Chrome DevTools interface is open at the bottom, with the 'Network' tab selected. The filter dropdown is set to 'All'. The filter bar includes: 'bounce', 'Invert', 'Hide data URLs', 'Fetch/XHR', 'JS', 'CSS', 'Img', 'Media', 'Font', 'Doc', 'WS', 'Wasm', 'Manifest', 'Other', 'Has blocked cookies', 'Blocked Requests', and '3rd-party requests'. The 'Use large request rows' checkbox is checked. Other options include 'Show overview', 'Group by frame', and 'Capture screenshots'. The main area of the Network tab shows the text: 'Recording network activity... Perform a request or hit **Ctrl+R** to record the reload.' with a 'Learn more' link below it.

ABCmouse.com
Early Learning Academy

Full Online Curriculum
FOR CHILDREN AGES 2-8

Reading • Math • Science • Art & Colors

Special Offer
UP TO
49% OFF
with your Annual Subscription!
[Learn More](#)

[En Español](#)
[Create a Shortcut](#)
[Teachers](#)

[Log In](#)
[Sign Up](#)
[Give a Gift](#)

Try it FREE for 30 days!
Click Here to Learn More

Network

Name	Status	Domain	Type	Initiator	Size	Time	Waterfall
task.nextdoor.com				script	0 B	000 ms	
?id=686407008078166&ev=Microdata&dl=https... www.facebook.com/tr	200	www.facebook.com	gif	www.facebook.com/ Redirect	91 B 44 B	29 ms 25 ms	
?id=686407008078166&ev=Microdata&dl=https... www.facebook.com/tr	307 Inter...	www.facebook.com	/Redirect	VM915_main.min.js:6 Script	0 B 0 B	Pending	
<input type="checkbox"/> trace www.cloudflare.com/cdn-cgi	200	www.cloudflare.com	xhr	(index):6 Script	439 B 296 B	242 ms 239 ms	
<input type="checkbox"/> p b.px-cdn.net/api/v1/PXTU0h5FRQ/d	200	b.px-cdn.net	xhr	(index):6 Script	19 B 3 B	98 ms 94 ms	

18 requests | 23.5 kB transferred | 54.7 kB resources

The image shows a browser window with several tabs: 'New Tab', 'SHA256 Online', 'MD5 Online', and 'SHA1 Online'. The address bar contains the text 'Search Google or type a URL'. The main content area displays a message: 'You're browsing as a Guest' followed by a paragraph explaining that pages viewed in this window won't appear in the browser history and won't leave traces like cookies. A 'Learn more' link is provided below the text.

Below the main content, the Chrome DevTools interface is visible, with the 'Network' tab selected. The toolbar includes options for 'Preserve log', 'Disable cache', 'No throttling', and various filters. The filter dropdown is set to 'All'. Below the toolbar, there are checkboxes for 'Use large request rows', 'Show overview', 'Group by frame', and 'Capture screenshots'. The main area of the Network tab shows the text: 'Recording network activity...' and 'Perform a request or hit **Ctrl+R** to record the reload.', with a 'Learn more' link below.

Results - Top ten websites

EU				US			
Rank	Website	Third-party	Hash/encoding/compression	Rank	Website	Third-party	Hash/encoding/compression
154	usatoday.com*	taboola.com	Hash (SHA-256)	95	issuu.com	taboola.com	Hash (SHA-256)
242	trello.com*	bizable.com	Encoded (URL)	128	businessinsider.com	taboola.com	Hash (SHA-256)
243	independent.co.uk*	taboola.com	Hash (SHA-256)	154	usatoday.com	taboola.com	Hash (SHA-256)
300	shopify.com	bizable.com	Encoded (URL)	191	time.com	bouncex.net	Compression (LZW)
328	marriott.com	glassboxdigital.io	Encoded (BASE-64)	196	udemy.com	awin1.com	Hash (SHA-256 with salt)
567	newsweek.com*	rlcdn.com	Hash (MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256)			zenaps.com	Hash (SHA-256 with salt)
705	prezi.com*	taboola.com	Hash (SHA-256)	217	healthline.com	rlcdn.com	Hash (MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256)
754	branch.io*	bizable.com	Encoded (URL)	234	foxnews.com	rlcdn.com	Hash (MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256)
1,153	prothomalo.com	facebook.com	Hash (SHA-256)	242	trello.com*	bizable.com	Encoded (URL)
1,311	codecademy.com	fullstory.com	Unencoded	278	theverge.com	rlcdn.com	Hash (MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256)
1,543	azcentral.com*	taboola.com	Hash (SHA-256)	288	webmd.com	rlcdn.com	Hash (MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256)

Results - Website Categories

Categories	EU/US		EU		US	
	Sites	Filled sites	Leaky sites	Filled sites	Leaky sites	
Fashion/Beauty	1,669	1,176	131 (11.1%)	1,179	224 (19.0%)	
Online Shopping	5,395	3,658	345 (9.4%)	3,744	567 (15.1%)	
General News	7,390	3,579	235 (6.6%)	3,848	392 (10.2%)	
Software/Hardware	4,933	2,834	138 (4.9%)	2,855	162 (5.7%)	
Business	13,462	7,805	377 (4.8%)	7,924	484 (6.1%)	
...	
Games	2,173	925	9 (1.0%)	896	11 (1.2%)	
Public Information	2,346	1,049	8 (0.8%)	1,084	27 (2.5%)	
Govern.Military	3,754	939	5 (0.5%)	974	7 (0.7%)	
Uncategorized	1,616	636	3 (0.5%)	646	2 (0.3%)	
Pornography	1,388	528	0 (0.0%)	645	0 (0.0%)	



🔍 I



Gmail Images ☰

Google

🔍 Search Google or type a URL 🔊



Web Store



Add shortcut

Results - HTTP - WebSocket Usage



- 15 websites in the EU
- 14 websites in the US

- WebSocket
- To four tracker domains:
 - hotjar.com
 - freshrelevance.com
 - noibu.com
 - decibelinsight.net

Results - EU vs US

	EU			US		
	Distinct websites (All)	Distinct websites (Leaks to 3rd P)	Distinct websites (Tracking related)	Distinct websites (All)	Distinct websites (Leaks to 3rd P)	Distinct websites (Tracking related)
Email	4,395	2,633	1,844	5,518	3,790	2,950

60% difference

addthis.com, yahoo.com,
doubleclick.net and criteo.com



Only appear in the US crawl

Results - EU vs US

The screenshot shows the Vail Mountain Resort website (vail.com) with a browser console open at the bottom. The console displays multiple error messages: "Failed to load resource: the server responded with a status of 451 ()". A red arrow points from one of these error messages to a callout box on the right. The website content includes a navigation bar with "VAIL" logo, "Explore the Resort", "The Mountain", "Tickets & Passes", "Lessons & Rentals", "Lodging", and "Need Help?". Below the navigation bar, there are sections for "LIFT TICKETS", "SIGN IN TO YOUR EPIC ACCOUNT", and "CREATE AN EPIC ACCOUNT". The "SIGN IN" section has input fields for "EMAIL ADDRESS OR USERNAME*" (containing "testuser1111111@gmail.com") and "PASSWORD*", with "Forgot Username?" and "Forgot Password?" links. The "CREATE AN EPIC ACCOUNT" section has a "CREATE ACCOUNT" button.

rlcdn.com sends HTTP 451 error: Unavailable For Legal Reasons

Results - EU vs US

Same script (from securedvisit.com) served with **different content**

```
1 /* sv_ea082ada0bf69f160b0bc84078d230c0.js
2 THIS APPLICATION CONTAINS INFORMATION PROPRIETARY TO SECUREDVISIT.COM
3 TO USE THIS SOFTWARE, YOU MUST BE AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEE OR AGENT
4 OF SECUREDVISIT.COM.
5 ALL RIGHTS NOT GRANTED TO YOU HEREIN ARE EXPRESSLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY
6 RESERVED. YOU MAY NOT REMOVE ANY PROPRIETARY NOTICE FROM ANY COPY OF THE SOFTWARE.
7 YOU MAY NOT PUBLISH, DISPLAY, DISCLOSE, RENT, LEASE, LICENSE,
8 SUBLICENSE, MODIFY, RENAME, LOAN, DISTRIBUTE, OR CREATE DERIVATIVE WORKS
9 BASED ON ANY PART OF THE SOFTWARE. YOU MAY NOT REVERSE ENGINEER,
10 DECOMPILE, TRANSLATE, ADAPT, OR DISASSEMBLE ANY PART OF THE SOFTWARE,
11 NOR SHALL YOU ATTEMPT TO CREATE THE SOURCE CODE FROM THE OBJECT CODE FOR
12 ANY PART OF THE SOFTWARE.
13 JQuery Sizzle:
14 This software consists of voluntary contributions made by many
15 individuals. For exact contribution history, see the revision history
16 available at https://github.com/jquery/sizzle
17 MD5 (Message-Digest Algorithm):
18 available at http://www.webtoolkit.info/ */
19 window.sv_DNT=true;
20 !function(e){var t,n=!e.sv_DNT,r=e.sv_px,o="https://track.securedvisit.com/citecapture",i=r&&"string"==typeo
f r.url&&"https"==r.url.substring(0,6)?r.url:"https://track.securedvisit.com",u=i+"/identity",a={key:"sv_px_
domain_data",value:r&r.domain_data?r.domain_data:void 0},c={key:"sv_pubid",value:e.sv_pubid},s={key:"sv_ci
d",value:e.sv_cid},l=!e.sv_idq_wait&&[],f=function(e){function t(e,t,n,r){var o,i,u,a,c,l,d,v=t&&t.ownerDocu
ment,p=t?t.nodeType:9;if(n||[],"string"!=typeof e||e||1!==p&&9!==p&&11!==p)return n;if(!r&&((t?t.ownerDocu
```

in the EU

```
1 /* sv_ea082ada0bf69f160b0bc84078d230c0.js
2 THIS APPLICATION CONTAINS INFORMATION PROPRIETARY TO SECUREDVISIT.COM
3 TO USE THIS SOFTWARE, YOU MUST BE AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEE OR AGENT
4 OF SECUREDVISIT.COM.
5 ALL RIGHTS NOT GRANTED TO YOU HEREIN ARE EXPRESSLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY
6 RESERVED. YOU MAY NOT REMOVE ANY PROPRIETARY NOTICE FROM ANY COPY OF THE SOFTWARE.
7 YOU MAY NOT PUBLISH, DISPLAY, DISCLOSE, RENT, LEASE, LICENSE,
8 SUBLICENSE, MODIFY, RENAME, LOAN, DISTRIBUTE, OR CREATE DERIVATIVE WORKS
9 BASED ON ANY PART OF THE SOFTWARE. YOU MAY NOT REVERSE ENGINEER,
10 DECOMPILE, TRANSLATE, ADAPT, OR DISASSEMBLE ANY PART OF THE SOFTWARE,
11 NOR SHALL YOU ATTEMPT TO CREATE THE SOURCE CODE FROM THE OBJECT CODE FOR
12 ANY PART OF THE SOFTWARE.
13 JQuery Sizzle:
14 This software consists of voluntary contributions made by many
15 individuals. For exact contribution history, see the revision history
16 available at https://github.com/jquery/sizzle
17 MD5 (Message-Digest Algorithm):
18 available at http://www.webtoolkit.info/ */
19 window.sv_px={"url":"https://track.securedvisit.com","domain_data":{"sid_found":false,"ver":"1.0.0","sid_va
l":""}};
20 window.c=(function(){var i="1.0.1";var e="onready";var g="fire";function f(j){if(Array.isArray){return Array.
isArray(j)}else{return Object.prototype.toString.apply(j)=== "[object Array]"}function b(j,l){var k=l?l:j;if
(typeof k=="object"){k=JSON.stringify(k)}if(l){k+="": "+k"}console.log(k)}function h(j){this.name=j;this.call
backs=[]}h.prototype.registerCallback=function(j){this.callbacks.push(j)};function d(){this.type="";this.deta
il="";this.timeStamp=Date.now()}function a(){this.dataLayer={};this.events={};this.isReady=false}a.prototype.
registerEvent=function(j){this.events[j]=new h(j)};a.prototype.on=a.prototype.addEventListener=function(j,k)
{if(!this.events.hasOwnProperty(j)){this.registerEvent(j)}this.log("listening for",j,k);this.events[j].regist
erCallback(k)};a.prototype.fire=a.prototype.dispatchEvent=function(k,j){if(this.events.hasOwnProperty(k)){for
(var l=0;l<this.events[k].callbacks.length;l++){var n=this.events[k].callbacks[l];if(n){var m=new d();m.type=
k;m.detail=j;this.log("firing",k,j);n.call(this,m)}else{this.log("dispatching event with no callback",k,n)}}}
else{this.log("dispatching an event with no registered listeners",k,j)};a.prototype.ready=function(){this.is
Ready=true;this.dispatchEvent(e,this)};a.prototype.push=function(o){var k=this,j=arguments.length;if(!f(o)){r
eturn}for(var m=0;m<j;m++){try{k[arguments[m][0]].apply(k,arguments[m].slice(1));catch(n){}}};a.prototype.log
=function(m,l,j){var k;if(this.debug){k="+" + svData.Event+"<"+l+">";b(k,j)};function c(){var k=window._svData,
j=null;if(k){if(f(k)){j=new a();if(k.hasOwnProperty("debug")){j.debug=k.debug}}.push.apply(j,k);j.ready()}el
se{j=new a();j.ready()}return j?:k}return c})();
21 !function(e){var t,n=!e.sv_DNT,r=e.sv_px,o="https://track.securedvisit.com/citecapture",i=r&&"string"==typeo
f r.url&&"https"==r.url.substring(0,6)?r.url:"https://track.securedvisit.com",u=i+"/identity",a={key:"sv_px_
domain_data",value:r&r.domain_data?r.domain_data:void 0},c={key:"sv_pubid",value:e.sv_pubid},s={key:"sv_ci
d",value:e.sv_cid},l=!e.sv_idq_wait&&[],f=function(e){function t(e,t,n,r){var o,i,u,a,c,l,d,v=t&&t.ownerDocu
ment,p=t?t.nodeType:9;if(n||[],"string"!=typeof e||e||1!==p&&9!==p&&11!==p)return n;if(!r&&((t?t.ownerDocu
```

in the US

Results - The Effect of Consent

Consent modes	EU	US
Accept all	239	242
Reject all	201	199
No action	202	228

0.05%

13%

Results - Mobile

	Leaky/ Filled Sites EU	Leaky/ Filled Sites US
Desktop	1,844 / 60,008 (3.0%)	2,950 / 60,999 (4.8%)
Mobile	1,745 / 55,738 (3.1%)	2,744 / 57,715 (4.8%)

Results - Received Emails

- 290 emails from 88 distinct sites

Email from: diabetes.org.uk
Tracker domain: freshaddress.biz

A friendly reminder Inbox x



Diabetes UK <donate@diabetes.org.uk>
to cosicadam0+diabetes.org.uk ▾

DiABETES UK
KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

We noticed that you were on our online donation form **but didn't complete it**. If you still feel able to donate, then please take a moment to [complete our form](#).

Is there anything we can help with? If you have any questions please email us at helpline@diabetes.org.uk or call us on [0345 123 2399](tel:03451232399)* we are happy to help you.

Thank you,

Diabetes UK

*Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm

View our [Privacy](#) and [Cookies](#) policies.

Results - Received Emails

Searching for products that actually work? Inbox x

 **MyPillow** <mike.lindell@mail.mypillow.com> [Unsubscribe](#)
to cosicadam0+mypillow.com




*Thanks For
Stopping By*


When I started MyPillow, my passion was to help people get the best sleep of their life! What a blessing it has been to see that dream become a reality!

To help you best care for your MyPillow, please read our product care recommendations. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to

Email from: mypillow.com
Tracker domain: listrakbi.com

¡Se despide Hot Days! 18 MSI + BONIFICACIÓN Inbox x

 **Walmart** <mgnoreply@walmart.com.mx>
to cosicadam0+walmart.com.mx

 Spanish > English [Translate message](#)

Walmart.com.mx



[OUTLET](#) | [TV Y VIDEO](#) | [BEBÉS](#) | [VIDEOJUEGOS](#) | [MUEBLES](#) | [CELULARES](#)



Hasta **18** Meses Sin Intereses + **3 meses de bonificación en Edo. Cta.**

Exclusivo en línea. Válido del 21 al 31 de mayo de 2021. Compra mínima para MSI es de \$1,500 acumulables sin incluir costo de envío. Compra mínima para bonificación en Estado de Cuenta es de \$3,000 a 18 MSI sin incluir costo de envío. Consulta términos y condiciones en: www.walmart.com.mx/beneficios

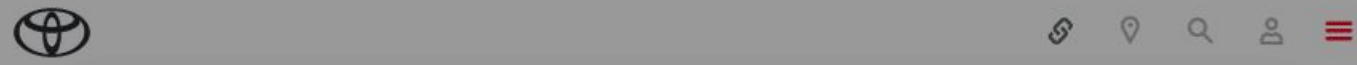


Email from: walmart.com.mx
Tracker domain: veinteractive.com

Results - Password Leaks on 52 websites

Incidental collection by

- Yandex Metrica: due to React framework (50 websites)
- Mixpanel: due to outdated SDK usage (1 website)
- LogRocket: No response (1 website)



МОЯ TOYOTA

Войти в личный кабинет

Электронная почта/Имя пользователя

Пароль

Вход

[У меня нет учетной записи >](#)
[Восстановить пароль](#)

Name	Status	Type	Initiator	Size	T...	Waterfall
44886451?wmode=0&wv-part=2&wv... mc.yandex.ru/webvisor	200	xhr	ruxitagentjs_IC... Script	145 B 43 B	7... 7...	
44886451?wmode=0&wv-part=2&wv... mc.yandex.ru/webvisor	200	xhr	ruxitagentjs_IC... Script	73 B 43 B	6... 6...	
44886451?wmode=0&wv-part=3&wv... mc.yandex.ru/webvisor	200	xhr	ruxitagentjs_IC... Script	145 B 43 B	5... 5...	
44886451?wmode=0&wv-part=3&wv... mc.yandex.ru/webvisor	200	xhr	ruxitagentjs_IC... Script	73 B 43 B	5... 5...	

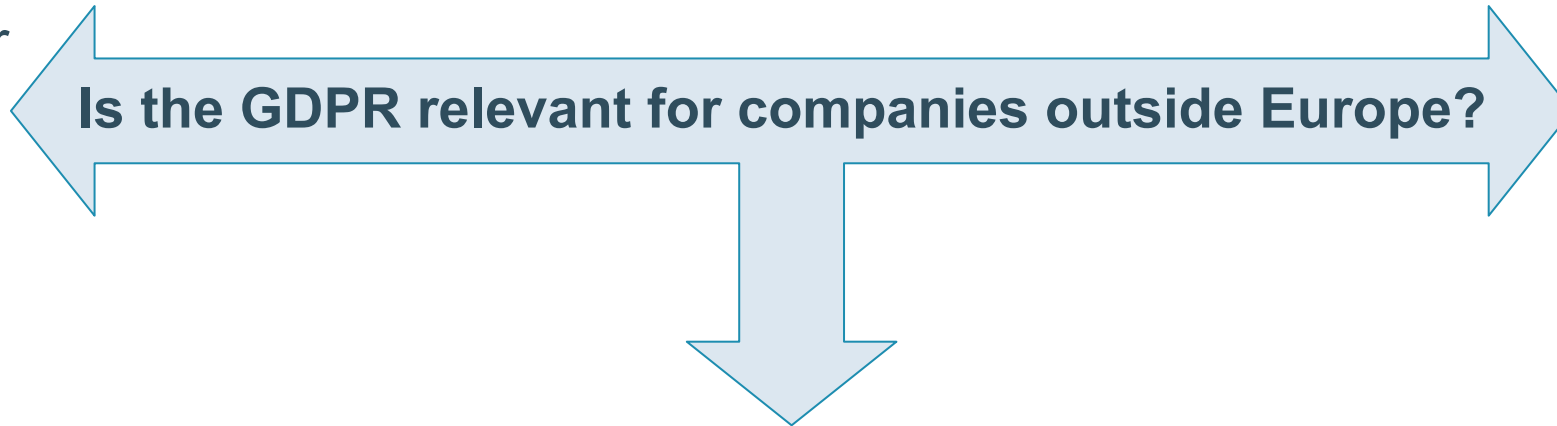
4 requests | 436 B transferred | 172 B resources

Password collection disclosures

- Notified more than 50 websites about the password collection
- Reached out to all third parties
 - Yandex and MixPanel released an update
 - LogRocket never replied
- Reached out to first parties
 - With Russian translation of the email

Does Email Exfiltration Comply With the GDPR?

Is the controller is based in the EU?



Do the company 'monitors' the behavior of people in the EU?

Does the company offers goods or services to Europeans?

Does Email Exfiltration Comply With the GDPR?

7

Transparency principle

Personal data must be processed 'fairly and in a transparent manner'

2

Purpose limitation principle

Controllers can only collect personal data if they specify a clear purpose in advance

3

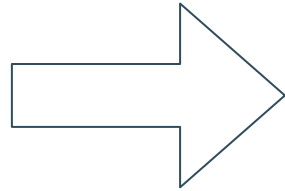
The requirement for a legal basis such as consent

The controller always needs a 'legal basis' to process personal data

GDPR Requests

52%

30/58 first parties replied

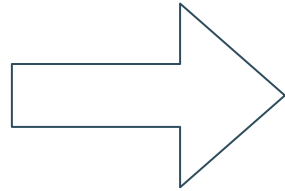


- Were not aware & removed
 - fivethirtyeight.com (via Walt Disney's DPO)
 - trello.com (Atlassian)
 - lever.co, branch.io and cision.com
- Marriott: Glassbox is used for **customer care, technical support, and fraud prevention**
- Tapad, not offering their services to UK & EEA users since August, 2021

GDPR Requests

53%

15/28 third parties replied

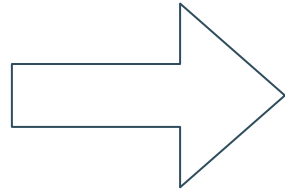


- Adobe and Yandex: Referred to corresponding first parties
- Taboola: CMP misconfiguration
- Adroll: Promised to rollout a comprehensive solution

Outreach to identified websites in the US crawl

0%

0/33 first parties replied



- We sent a friendly notification rather than a formal GDPR request.
- We did not get any response from these 33 websites.

Countermeasures

- Browser add-ons **block requests** to tracker domains
- Private **email relay** services hide users' emails
 - Apple, Mozilla, DuckDuckGo
 - e.g. testuser@duck.com-> testuser@gmail.com
- **NO** tool for detection and prevention of **sniff & exfiltration** on online forms

Browser add-on: LEAKINSPECTOR

- Detect sniff attempts
- Request Blocker
 - Filters & blocks leaky requests to trackers
- The UI is based on DuckDuckGo Privacy Essentials

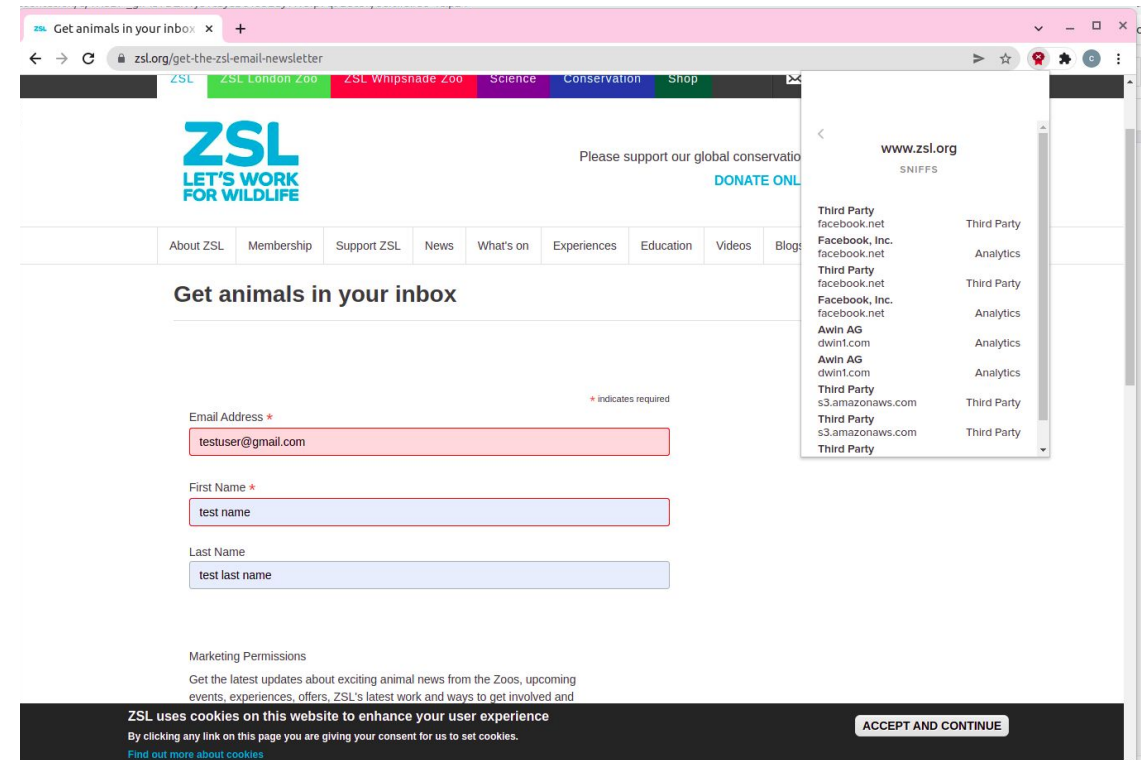
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `newswire.com/login`. The page features a "Sign In" form with fields for "Email Address" (containing `testuser@gmail.com`) and "Password" (masked with dots). A "Sign In" button is visible below the form. To the right, there is a circular graphic with puzzle pieces labeled "Earn", "Support", "Media Room", "Analytics", and "Measure". Below this graphic, the text reads "Distribute The **Right Message** to the **Right Audience** at the **Right Time**" with a "Learn More" button.

Overlaid on the right side of the browser is the LeakInspector add-on interface. It features a green power button icon at the top. Below the icon, it displays the website name `www.newswire.com`, the number of sniff attempts (`183 SNIFF ATTEMPTS`), and the number of blocked requests (`4 REQUESTS BLOCKED`). A menu is open, showing options for "Leaky Requests", "Found Sniffs", and "Request Blocker". The "Request Blocker" option is currently toggled on, indicated by a green switch.

Implementation Details - Detection of Sniff Attempts

Check all interesting input fields

- Modify getter method of HTMLInputElement
- Process the stack trace
- Compose a list of script origins
- Check the script domain is same or not with the domain of the page URL
- Highlight the sniffed input field



Implementation Details- Detection of Leaky Requests

Before each request was sent to the its end points

- Check the POST body and URL in the request
- Encoded, hashed, obfuscated, cleartext version of the input value is in the request
- Leak detector implemented based on methodology proposed by Englehardt et al. (PETS'18) [3]

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `adespresso.com/join/`. The page features the AdEspresso logo and a promotional banner for a 14-day free trial. The main content is a '1. Create your Account' form with the following fields:

- Email: `sjdbsjd@gmail.com`
- Password: `.....` (with a note: "The password must have min 8 characters")
- First name: "Your first name..."
- Company: "Your company... (optional)"
- Country: "Choose your country..."

A green "Continue" button is at the bottom of the form. A white overlay window titled "adespresso.com LEAKY REQUESTS" is positioned over the form, displaying a table of detected leaks:

FullStory	Analytics
fullstory.com	

NEWSWIRE

www.newswire.com
183 SNIFF ATTEMPTS
4 REQUESTS BLOCKED

Leaky Requests >

Found Sniffs >

Request Blocker

NewsWire :) Press Release x +

newsWire.com





NEWSWIRE Products Pricing Resources Blog Customer Stories Newsroom (800) 713-7278 Log In Sign Up

Press Release Distribution Empowering the Earned Media Advantage

#1 in Customer Satisfaction 2021
Best in Class - Science, Process and Technology
Simple, Targeted, Cost-Effective

Distribute the **Right Message** to the **Right Audience** at the **Right Time**

Let's Get Started - Press Release Distribution

Leaks to Facebook & TikTok

- Triggered when the user clicks any button on the page.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Independent news website. The browser address bar displays 'independent.co.uk'. The page features a navigation bar with the 'INDEPENDENT' logo, a 'Subscribe' button, a 'LOGIN' button, a search icon, and a menu icon. Below the navigation bar, there are two featured articles: one by Rosemary Dartmal titled 'Why I'll never forgive Matt Hancock for what he did' and another by Victoria Richards titled 'I have to ask — have men gone completely mad?'. The main content area is divided into sections: 'Latest headlines' with a large article about Starmer demanding action against a Tory MP, and 'Ukraine under attack' with several smaller articles. Red boxes highlight various elements: the navigation bar, the featured articles, the 'Latest headlines' section, the 'Ukraine under attack' section, and a 'Read More' button at the bottom. The page also includes a 'Guest' user indicator and a 'Close' button in the bottom right corner.

Leaks to Facebook & TikTok

- Disclosed to Facebook and TikTok

	EU	US
Facebook	7,379	8,438
TikTok	147	154



Online Tools

SHA256

SHA256 online hash function

Input

Input type Text

Hash Auto Update

Output

Hash	File Hash
CRC-16	CRC-16
CRC-32	CRC-32
MD1	MD1
MD4	MD4
MD5	MD5
SHA1	SHA1
SHA224	SHA224
SHA256	SHA256
SHA384	SHA384
SHA512	SHA512
SHS12034	SHS12074
SHS11008	SHS11050
SHS3-224	SHS3-224
SHS3-256	SHS3-256
SHS3-384	SHS3-384
SHS3-512	SHS3-512
Keeock-224	Keeock-224
Keeock-256	Keeock-256
Keeock-384	Keeock-384
Keeock-512	Keeock-512
Shake-128	Shake-128
Shake-256	Shake-256
Encode	Decode
Base12	Base12
Base32 File	Base32 File
Base64	Base64
Base64 File	Base64 File

Wrap up

- Email leaks on 1844, 2950 websites, EU, US, resp.
- Password leaks on 52 websites due to session replay scripts
- Uncovered 41 unlisted tracking domains
- Developed a transparency extension that detects PII sniffs and leaks



Any
Questions?

References

- [1] E. Papadogiannakis, P. Papadopoulos, N. Kourtellis, and E. P. Markatos. “User Tracking in the Postcookie Era: How Websites Bypass GDPR Consent to Track Users”. In: Proceedings of the Web Conference 2021. 2021, pp. 2130–2141.
- [2] M. Nouwens, I. Liccardi, M. Veale, D. Karger, and L. Kagal. “Dark patterns after the GDPR: Scraping consent pop-ups and demonstrating their influence”. In: Proceedings of the 2020 CHI conference on human factors in computing systems. 2020, pp. 1–13.
- [3] S. Englehardt, J. Han, and A. Narayanan. “I never signed up for this! Privacy implications of email tracking”. In: Proc. Priv. Enhancing Technol. 2018.1 (2018), pp. 109–126.
- [4] Oleksii Starov, Phillipa Gill, and Nick Nikiforakis. FormLock. <https://github.com/ostarov/Formlock>, 2021.
- [5] Surya Mattu and Kashmir Hill. Before You Hit ‘Submit,’ This Company Has Already Logged Your Personal Data. Gizmodo, 2017. <https://gizmodo.com/before-you-hit-submit-this-company-has-already-logge-1795906081>
- [6] 6 Steps for Avoiding Online Form Abandonment. <https://themanifest.com/web-design/blog/6-steps-avoid-online-form-abandonment>, Feb 2022. [Online; accessed 2022-02-12].
- [7] Rolf Bagge, Célestin Matte, Éric Daspét, Kaspar Emanuel, Sam Macbeth, and Steven Roeland. Consent-O-Matic. <https://github.com/cavi-au/Consent-O-Matic/>, 2019.
- [8] Mozilla Fathom documentation. <https://mozilla.github.io/fathom/>. [Online; accessed 2021-06-01].