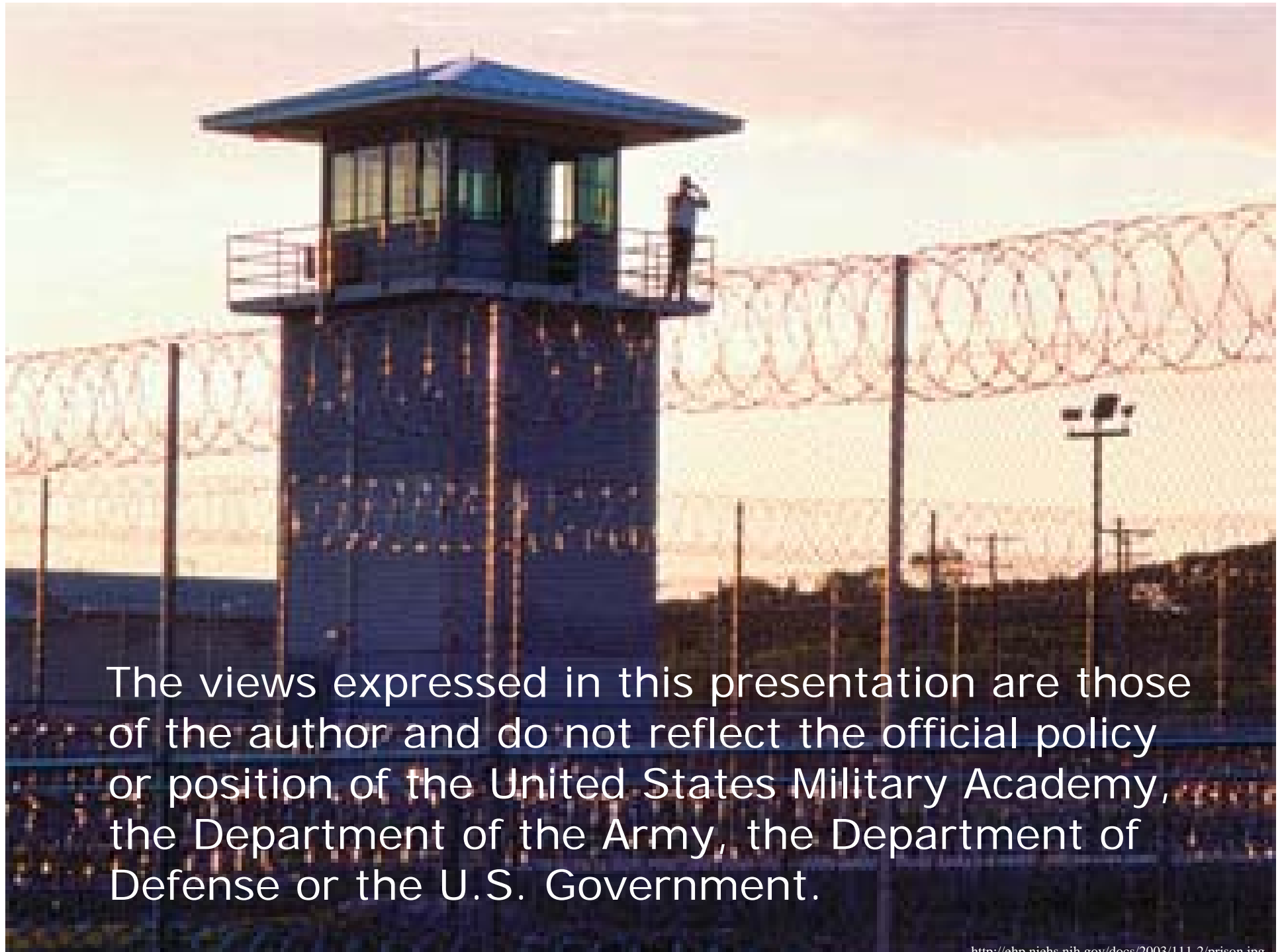


# Googling

I'm Feeling (un)Lucky

*Gregory Conti*  
*United States Military Academy*  
*West Point, New York*  
*gregory-conti@usma.edu*



The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the United States Military Academy, the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Government.

# Scenarios

- Patent search
- Serious medical condition
- Failing company
- Anonymous blogger
- Death in the family

Usama Fayyad  
Chief Data Officer  
2005 Interview with ACM

The image shows the classic Yahoo! logo in red, with a registered trademark symbol (®) at the end. The letters are bold and have a slight shadow effect.

## What are some of the biggest data mining challenges you face now at Yahoo?

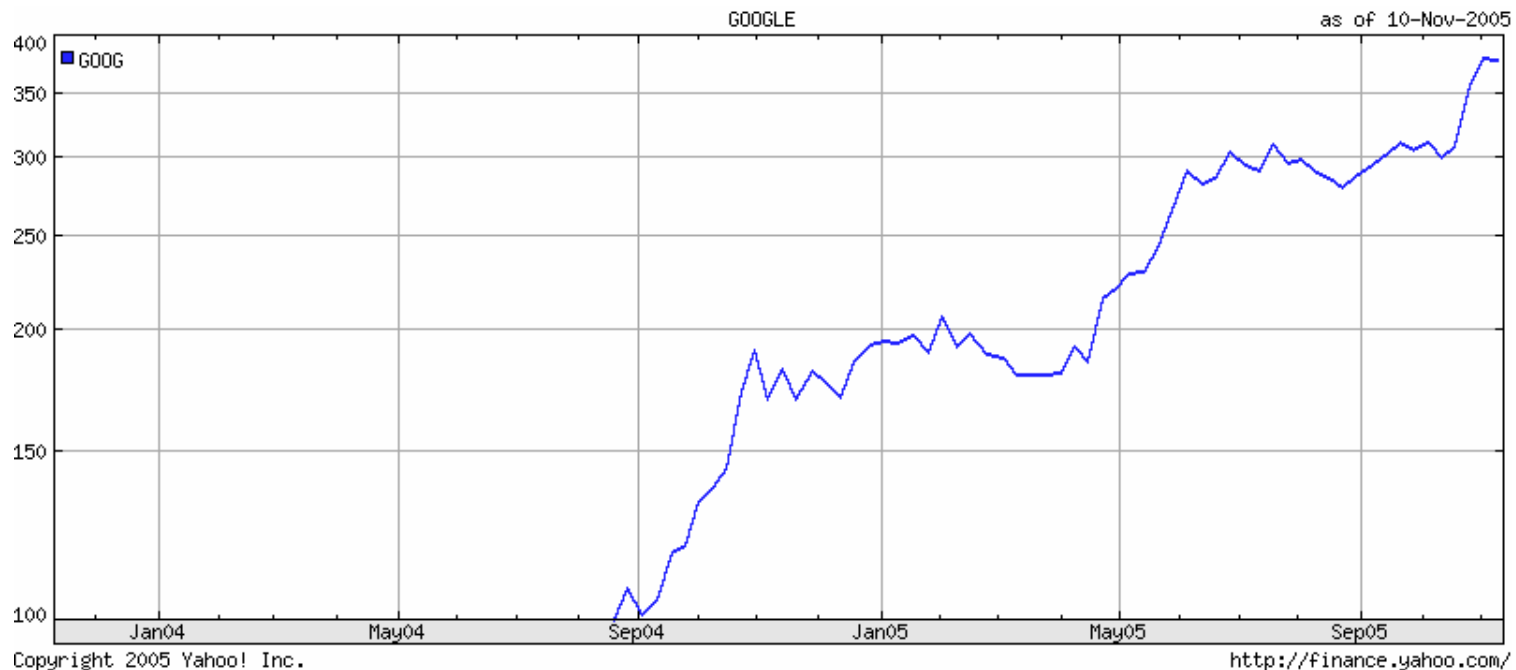
“Yahoo!'s users, through their use of our network of products, generate over 10 terabytes of data per day. This is the equivalent of the entire text contents of the library of Congress. This is data that describes product usage, and does not include content, email, or images, etc.”

“The first and largest challenge is the ability to capture all of this data reliably, process it, reduce it, and use it to feed the many, many [reports and applications]”

## What about Privacy and Data Mining at Yahoo?

“Yahoo! was built around consumer trust and it has been our number one priority since day one. We would never do anything to compromise our users privacy”

“Yahoo!, perhaps more than any other online consumer company, understands that the long-term survival and health of the business is built on consumer trust.”



Organize the world's information and  
make it universally accessible and useful. →

Evil



Generate revenue by providing advertisers  
with the opportunity to deliver measurable,  
cost-effective online advertising

Good

# Related News...



"Google.cn granted license for operation in China"  
censorship required to do "legal business" in China

"American Airlines subpoenas Google, YouTube"  
AA demands Google reveal name of person who posted airline's training videos.

"Google Subpoena Woes Double"  
DOJ, Child Pornography

"Yahoo helped Jail China writer"

"Phishing with Google Desktop"  
(remote code execution via malicious website)

Sony Rootkit

Google balances privacy, reach

Elinor Mills (CNET)

[http://www.doxpara.com.nyud.net:8090/planetsony\\_usa.JPG](http://www.doxpara.com.nyud.net:8090/planetsony_usa.JPG)

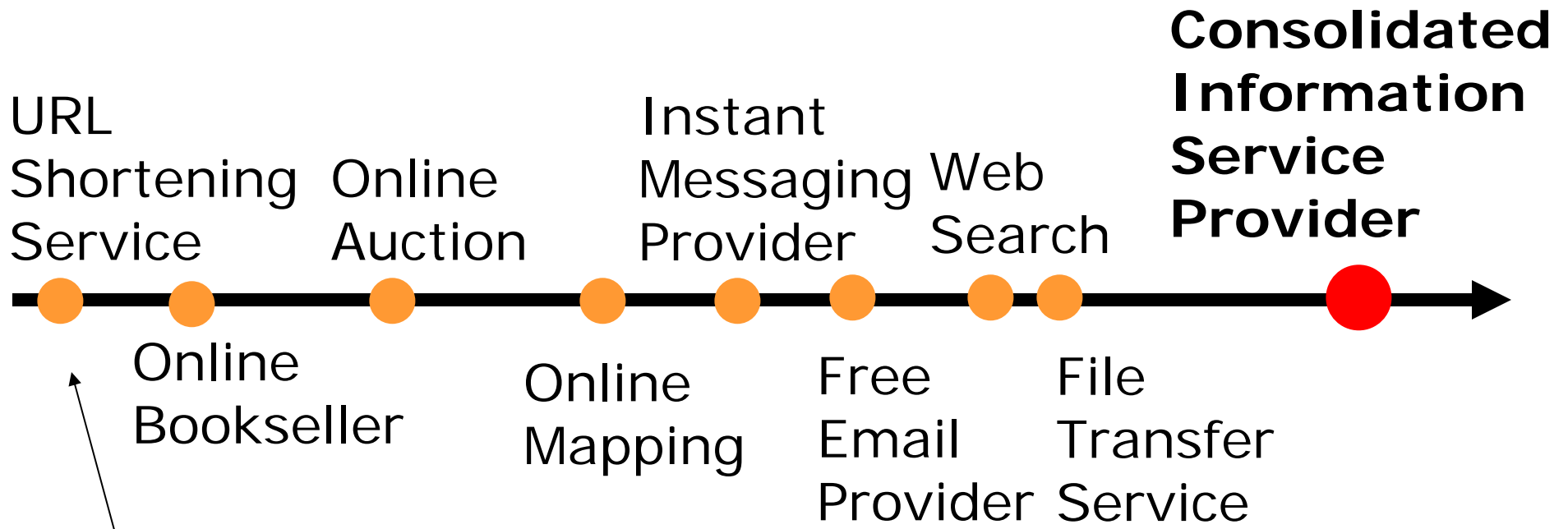


# What if an entirely altruistic provider

- Insider threat
- Accidental information disclosure
- Merger / Sale of Company
- Change in leadership / corporate philosophy
- Impact of technical advances
- Legal compulsion

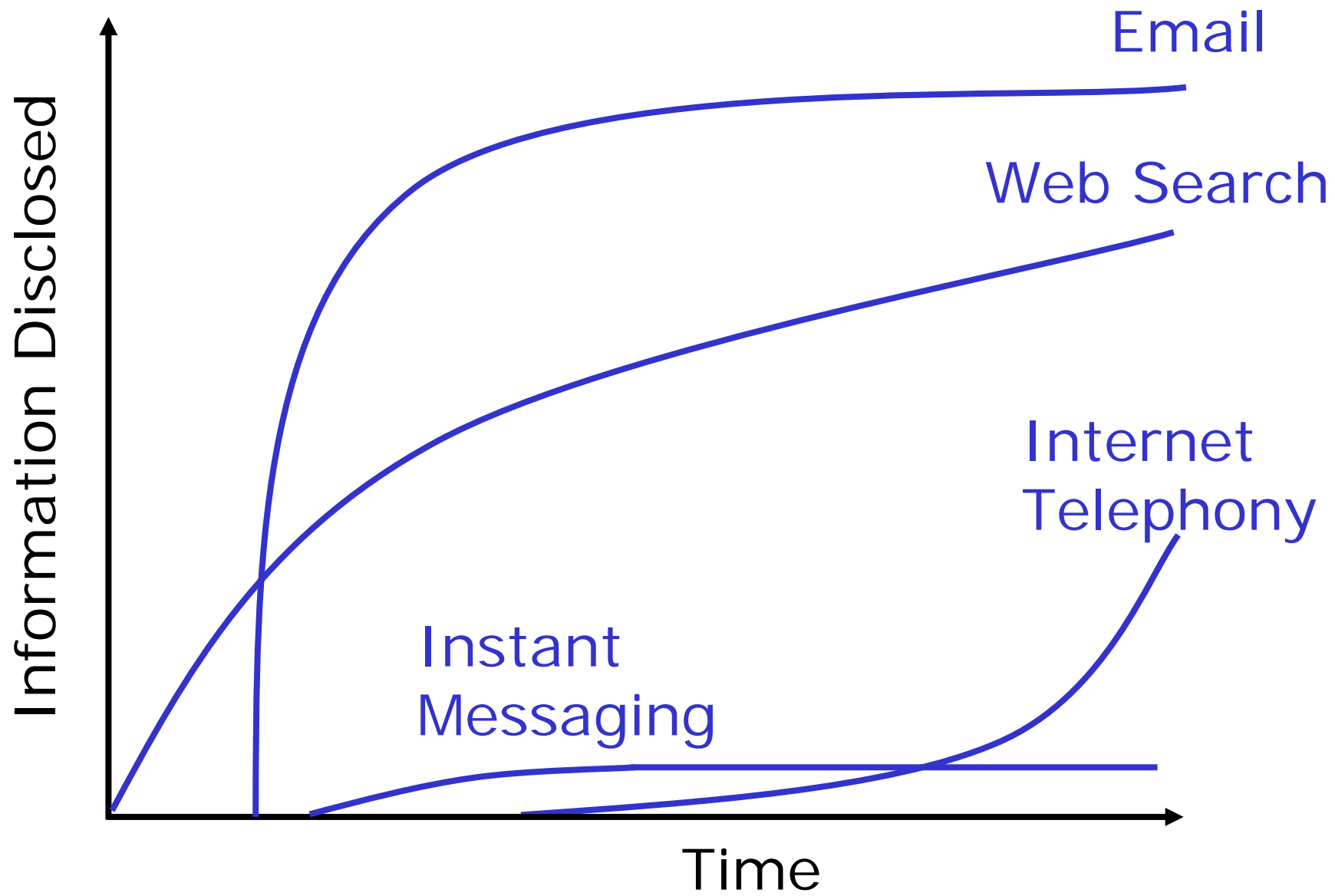
What if not?

# Information Disclosed



Tiny URL  
16 Million URLs  
325M hits/month

I have searched  
for things I  
wouldn't want  
my grandmother\*  
to know about.



# Case Study: Google

# Google Zeitgeist 2005

## Google.com

### Top Gainers of 2005

1. Myspace
2. Ares
3. Baidu
4. wikipedia
5. orkut
6. iTunes
7. Sky News
8. World of Warcraft
9. Green Day
10. Leonardo da Vinci

## Google News

### Top Searches in 2005

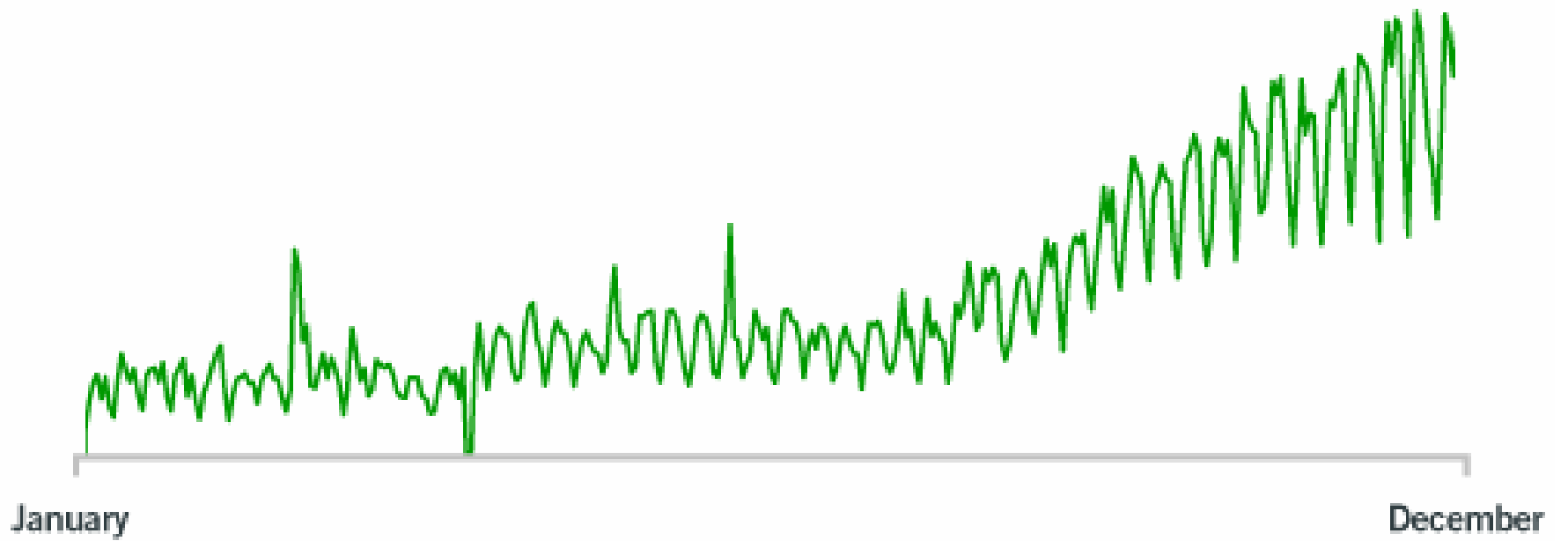
1. Janet Jackson
2. Hurricane Katrina
3. tsunami
4. xbox 360
5. Brad Pitt
6. Michael Jackson
7. American Idol
8. Britney Spears
9. Angelina Jolie
10. Harry Potter

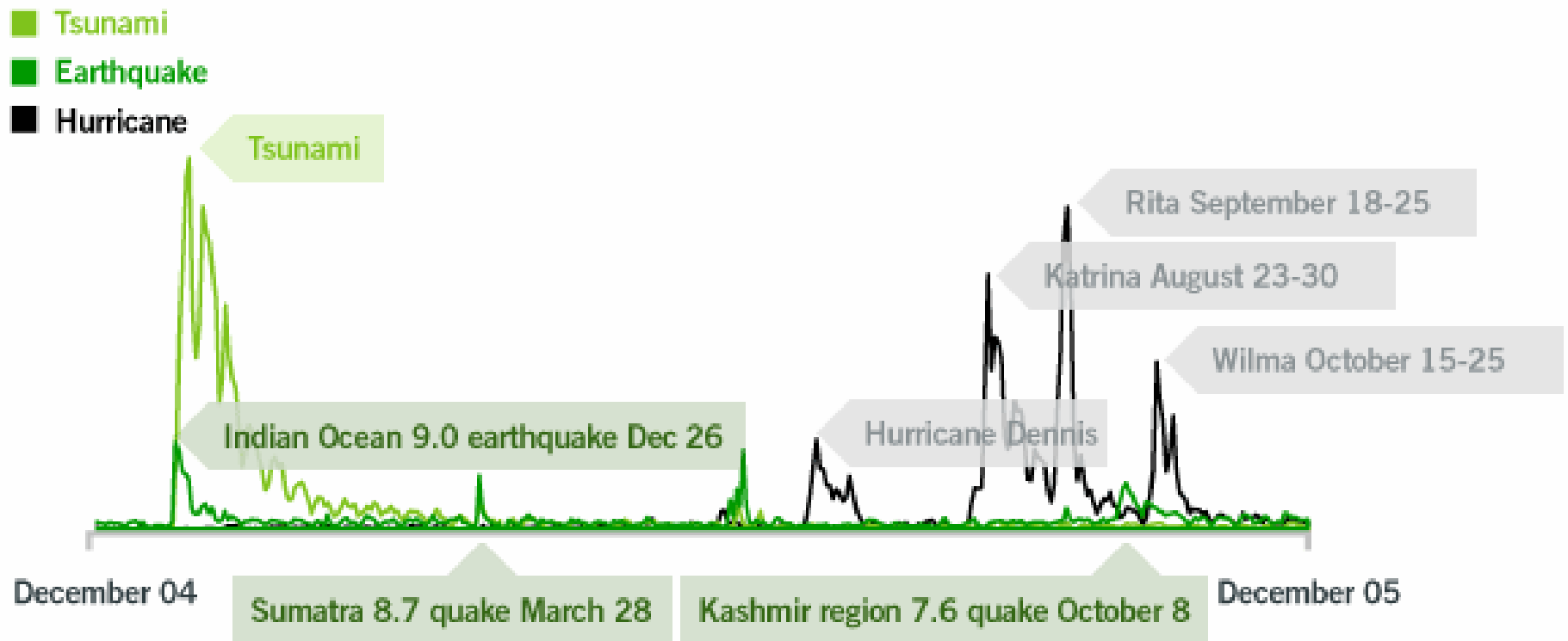
## Froogle

### Top Searches in 2005

1. ipod
2. digital camera
3. mp3 player
4. ipod mini
5. psp
6. laptop
7. xbox
8. ipod shuffle
9. computer desk
10. ipod nano

■ Wikipedia





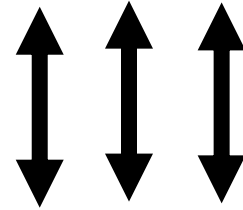


# Google Talent

“Passionate about these topics? You should work at Google.”

- algorithms
- artificial intelligence
- compiler optimization
- computer architecture
- computer graphics
- data compression
- **data mining**
- file system design
- **genetic algorithms**
- **information retrieval**
- **machine learning**
- natural language processing
- operating systems
- **profiling**
- robotics
- text processing
- user interface design
- web information retrieval
- and more!

Information others provide or retrieve



Information  
you provide  
or retrieve



Information Google retrieves  
(think Googlebot)





















# Disclosure Vectors

“When Did You  
Lose Your  
Google  
Virginity?”

Quote by Scott Lemon, <http://the.inevitable.org/anism/>

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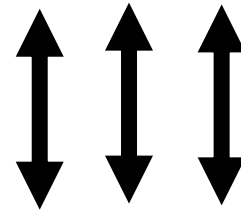
## Google Services

-  [Alerts](#)  
Receive news and search results via email
-  [Answers](#)  
Ask a question, set a price, get an answer
-  [Blog Search](#)  
Find blogs on your favorite topics
-  [Book Search](#)  
Search the full text of books
-  [Catalogs](#)  
Search and browse mail-order catalogs
-  [Directory](#)  
Browse the web by topic
-  [Froogle](#)  
Shop smarter with Google
-  [Groups](#)  
Create mailing lists and discussion groups
-  [Images](#)  
Search for images on the web
-  [Labs](#)  
Try out new Google products
-  [Local](#)  
Find local businesses and services
-  [Maps](#)  
View maps and get directions
-  [Mobile](#)  
Use Google on your mobile phone
-  [News](#)  
Search thousands of news stories
-  [Scholar](#)  
Search scholarly papers
-  [SMS](#)  
Use text messaging for quick info
-  [Special Searches](#)  
Search within specific topics
-  [University Search](#)  
Search a specific school's website
-  [Web Search](#)  
Search over billions of web pages
-  [Web Search Features](#)  
Do more with search

## Google Tools

-  [Blogger](#)  
Express yourself online
-  [Code](#)  
Download APIs and open source code
-  [Desktop](#)  
Info when you want it, right on your desktop
-  [Earth](#)  
Explore the world from your PC
-  [Gmail](#)  
A Google approach to email
-  [Local for mobile](#)  
View maps and get directions on your phone
-  [Picasa](#)  
Find, edit and share your photos
-  [Talk](#)  
IM and call your friends through your computer
-  [Toolbar](#)  
Add a search box to your browser
-  [Translate](#)  
View web pages in other languages

Information others provide or retrieve



Information  
you provide  
or retrieve



Information Google retrieves  
(think Googlebot)

# Google Research...

google

google api

google autolink

google base

google blacklist

google chat

google contest

google hacked

google intervened

google isp

google keyhole

google labs

google maps

google scholar

google screen

google sets

google toolbar

google wallet

google watch

google wireless

googlebot

I use Google as an  
Address Book.



# Google Alerts

- search terms
- email address
- frequency
- category (news, web, news and web, groups)

The screenshot shows the Google Alerts (BETA) page in a Mozilla Firefox browser. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.google.com/alerts>. The page features the Google Alerts logo and a navigation bar with links for [FAQ](#) and [Sign in](#). The main content area is titled "Welcome to Google Alerts" and explains that Google Alerts are email updates of the latest relevant Google results. It lists some handy uses of Google Alerts, such as monitoring a developing news story, keeping current on a competitor or industry, getting the latest on a celebrity or event, and keeping tabs on your favorite sports teams. A "Create a Google Alert" form is prominently displayed, with the following fields and options:

- Enter the topic you wish to monitor.
- Search terms:
- Type:
- How often:
- Your email:
- 

Below the form, it states: "Google will not sell or share your email address." At the bottom of the page, there are links for [terms of use](#) and [privacy policy](#), and a copyright notice for © 2006 Google. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Disabled".

<http://www.google.com/alerts>

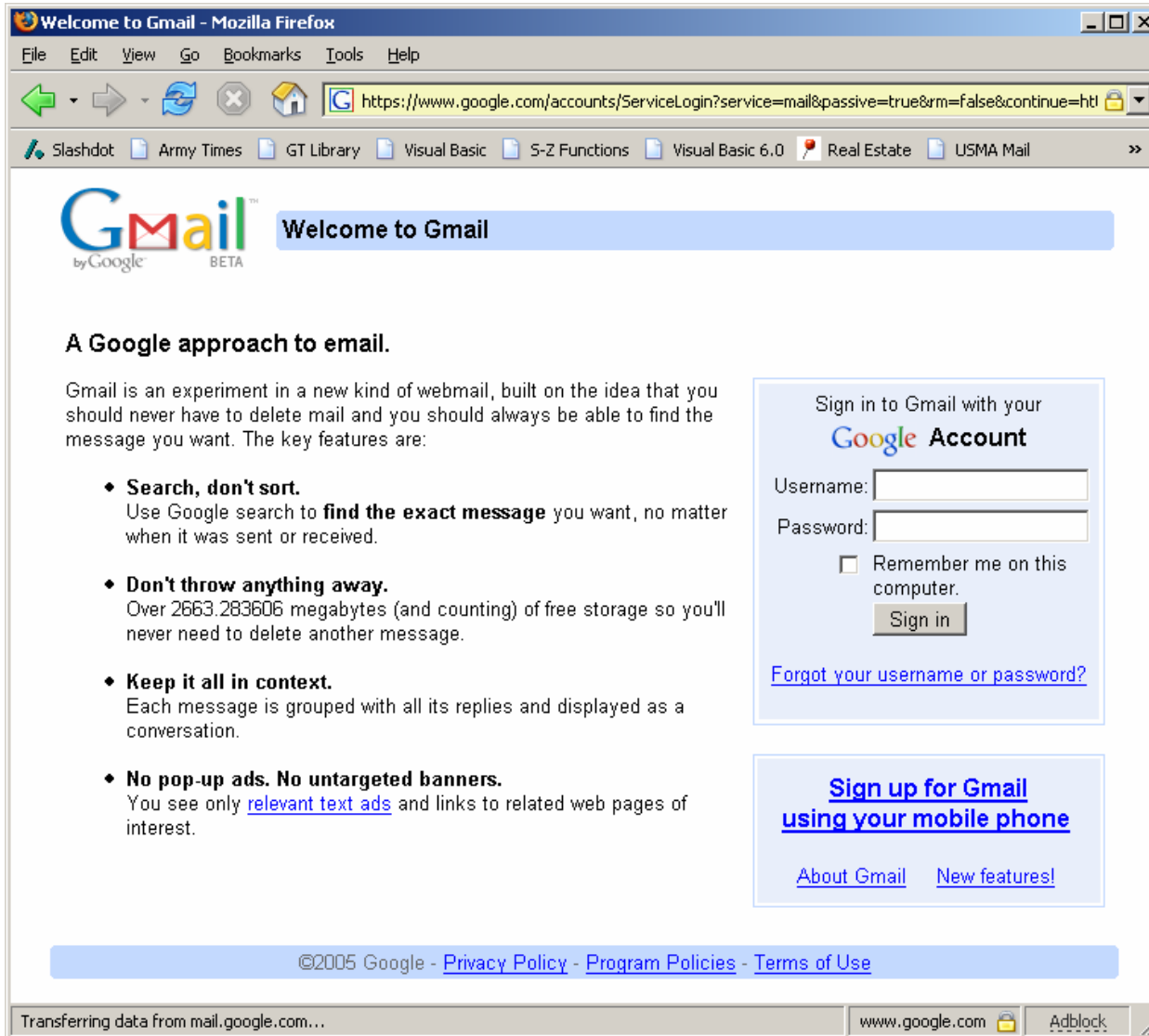
# Google Maps / Satellite Imagery



Locations  
of interest  
to you  
(down to street  
level)

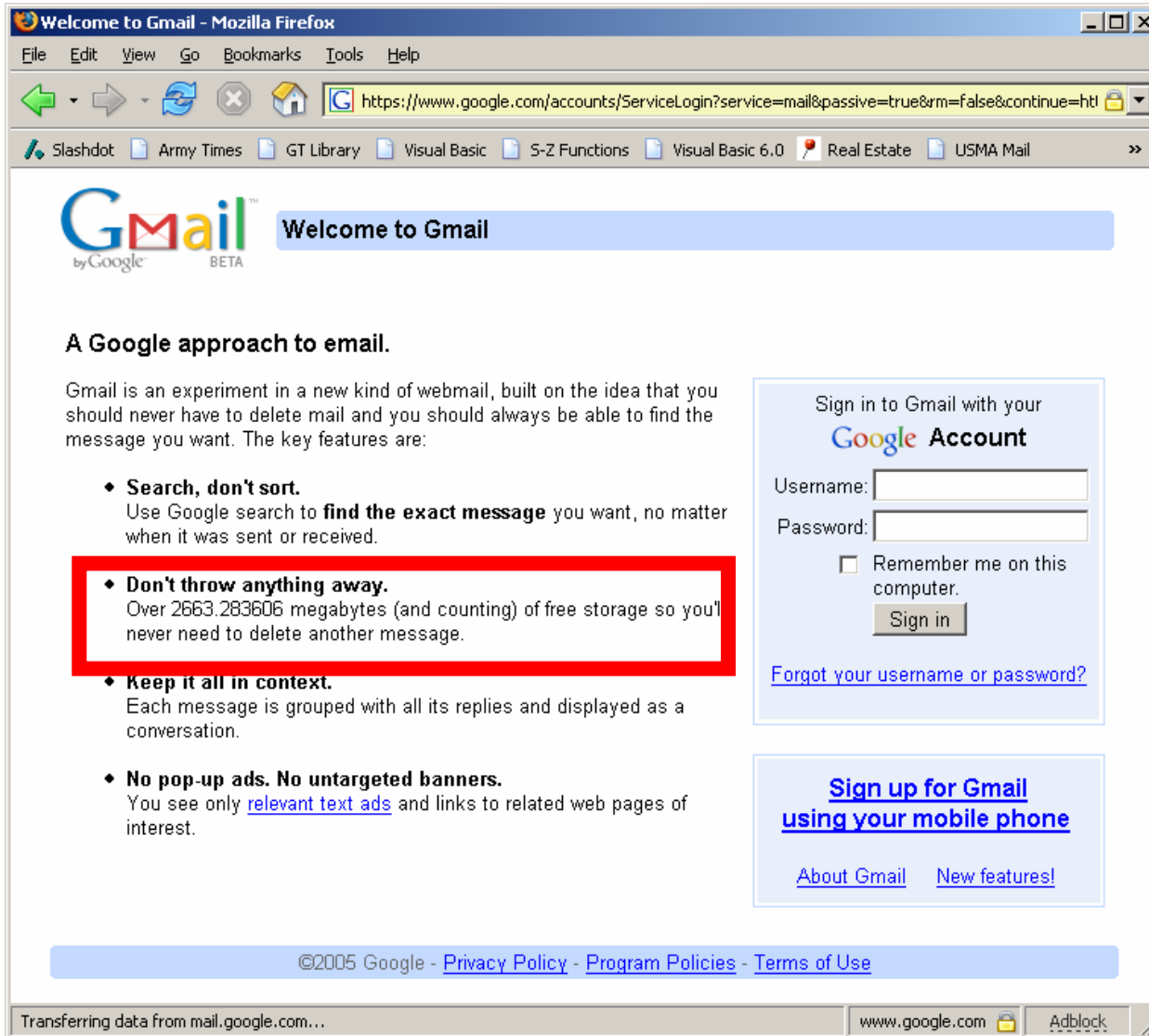
What have you looked at?

# Gmail



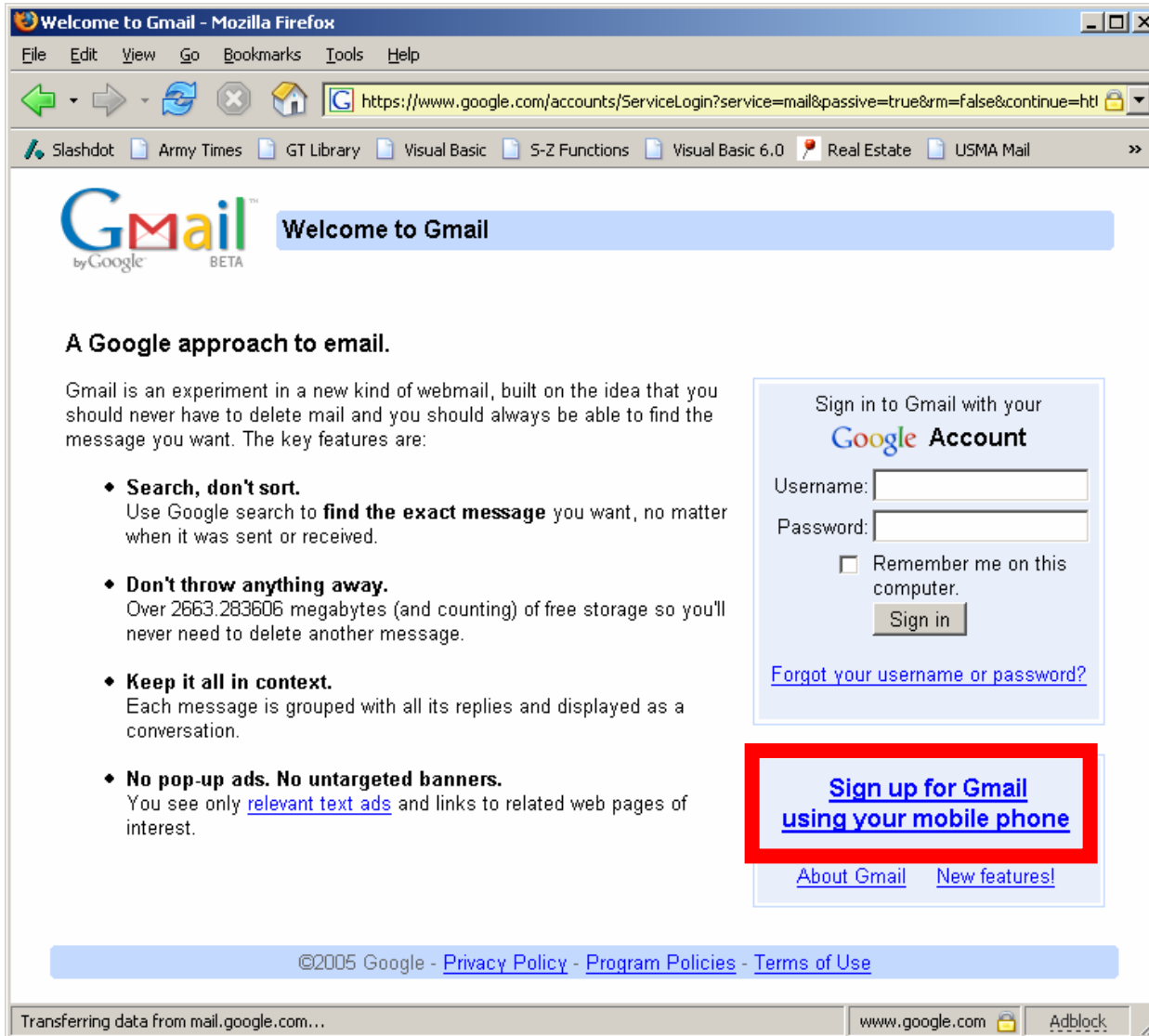
- email recipients
- email sources
- content
- N-order contact

# Gmail



- email recipients
- email sources
- content
- N-order contact

# Gmail



- email recipients
- email sources
- content
- N-order contact

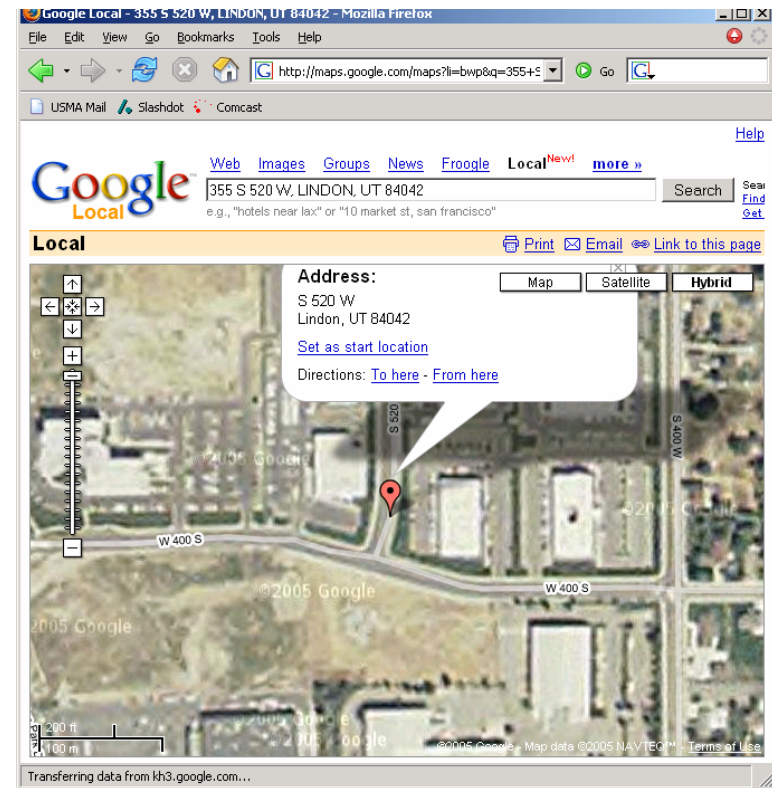
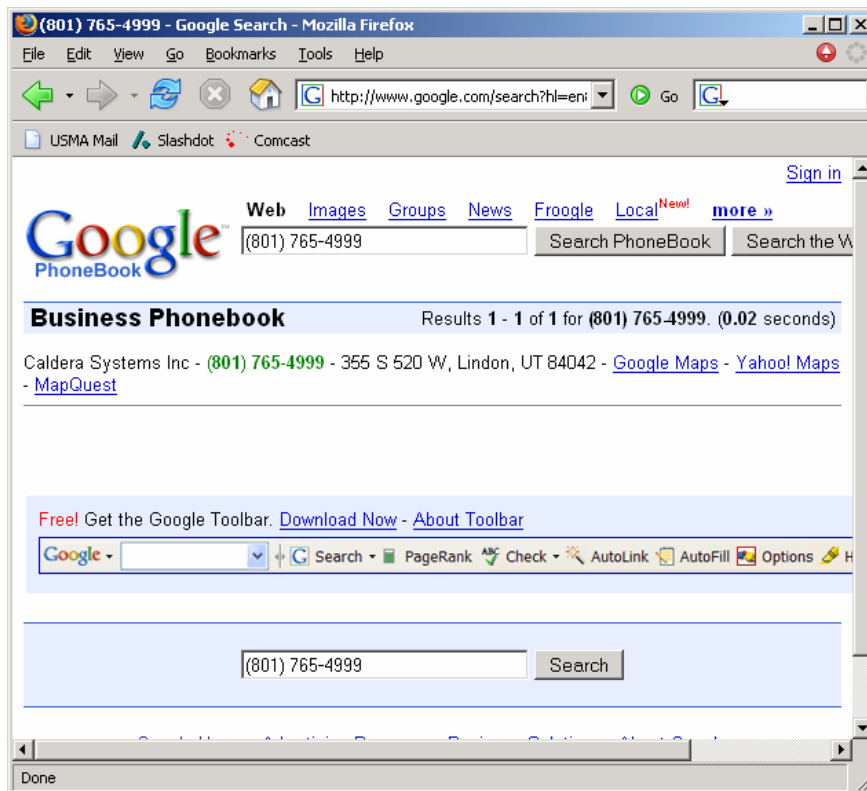
I use a Gmail  
account.

I have sent an  
email to a Gmail  
account.

My Employees  
are registered  
Gmail users.



# Residential/Commercial Phone Number Lookup



a search returns...

- name
- address
- phone number
- links to 3 mapping services

# Travel Support

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with the title "lax nyc - Google Search - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar contains the URL "http://www.google.com/search?q=lax+nyc". The search results page displays the Google logo, a search bar with "lax nyc" entered, and a "Search" button. Below the search bar, there are navigation links for "Web", "Images", "Groups", "News", "Froogle", "Local", and "more »". The search results are categorized under "Web" and show "Results 1 - 10 of about 4,160,000 for lax nyc. (0.12 seconds)".

The first result is "Flights from Los Angeles, CA to New York, NY", which includes a flight icon, a search box for "Departing: 11/24" and "Returning: 12/01", and links to "Search: Expedia Hotwire Orbitz Priceline".

The second result is "Local results for lax near New York, NY", which includes a compass icon and three entries:

- Robert I Lax & Assoc** - 3.1 miles NE - 535 5th Ave # 21, New York, 10017 - (212) 818-9150
- Lax Martin** - 3.2 miles N - 1185 Avenue of the Americ, New York, 10036 - (212) 372-1208
- Lax Moshe** - 3.4 miles NE - 250 E 49th St, New York, 10017 - (212) 758-9840

The third result is "LAX NYC Cheap Airfare", which includes a link to "cheap airfare to NYC from LAX to New York City from Los Angeles." and a link to "playground.igougo.com/Cities/FareTrend\_NYCLAX.asp - 14k - Cached - Similar pages".

The fourth result is "WDPCC | Teams Contacts", which includes a link to "Orca Lacrosse NYC New York, NY Philadelphia Premier Philadelphia, PA Philly Women's" and a link to "Lax Philadelphia, PA Portland Women Portland, OR".

The browser window also shows a "Sign in" link in the top right corner, a "Done" button in the bottom left corner, and an "Adblock" button in the bottom right corner.

# Collaborative Word Processing

**Writely - The Web Word Processor**

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www2.writely.com/info/WritelyOverflowWelcome.htm

Search Engine Watc... WebWarper: Intern... Google Watch Slashdot digg USMA Mail Army Times Smitchger Realty

**(beta) writely**

## The Web Word Processor

...that's [now part of Google](#).

- **Share documents instantly & collaborate real-time.**  
Pick exactly who can access your documents.
- **Edit your documents from anywhere.**  
Nothing to download -- your browser is all you need.
- **Store your documents securely online.**  
Offsite storage plus data backup every 10 seconds.
- **Easy to use.**  
Clean, uncluttered screens with a familiar, desktop feel.

Already registered with Writely?  
[Sign in here.](#)

**Let me know when I can sign up!**

E-mail:

**We have closed off new registrations** until we move Writely to Google's systems.

**Please submit your e-mail address** and we'll send you an email when registration opens back up!

➔ [Take a tour](#) ➔ [Find out more](#)

Can I ... upload from Word? **YES!**

Can I ... save to my desktop? **YES!**

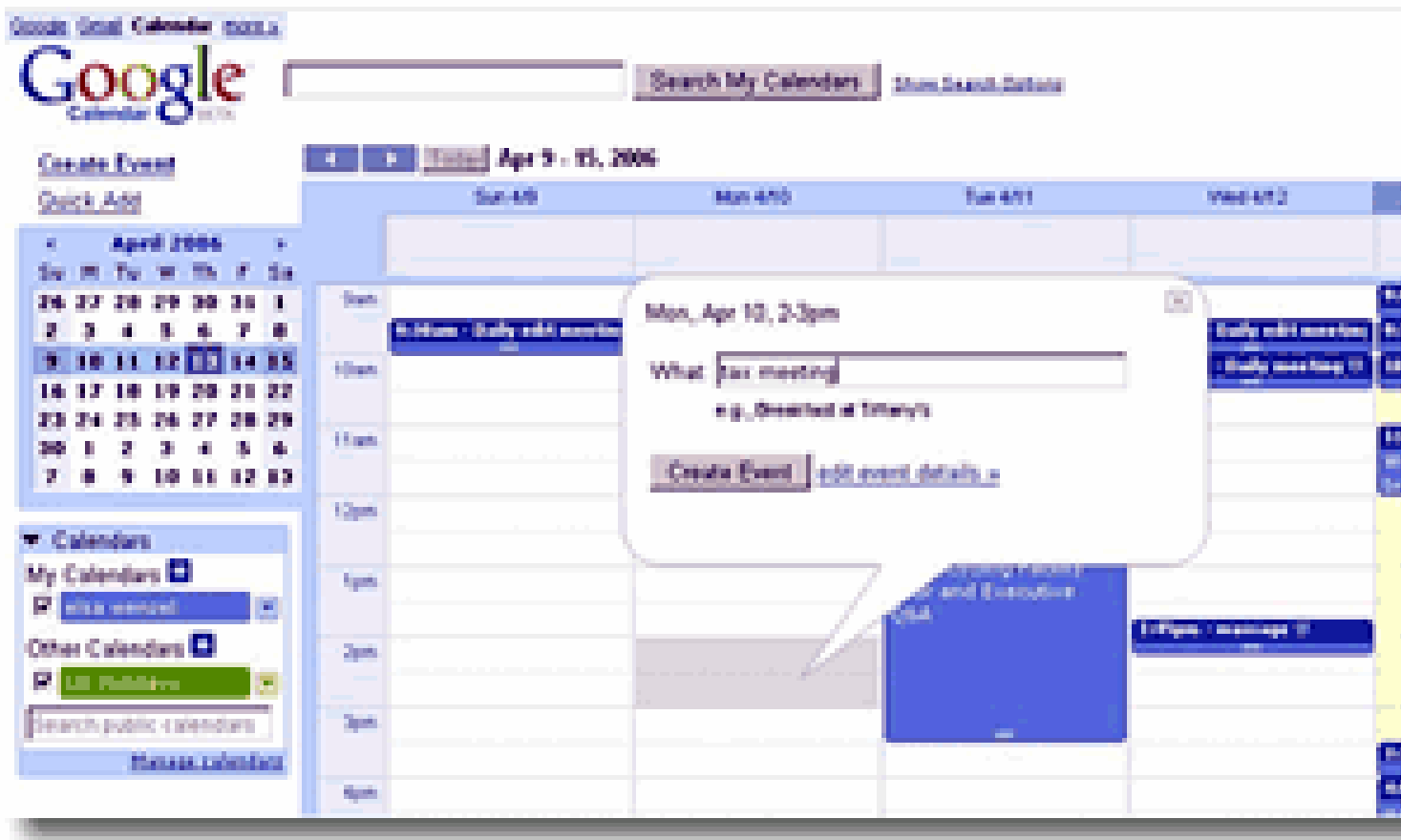
Can I ... publish on the web? **YES!**

Can I ... post on my blog? **YES!**

Done

Disabled

# Google Calendar



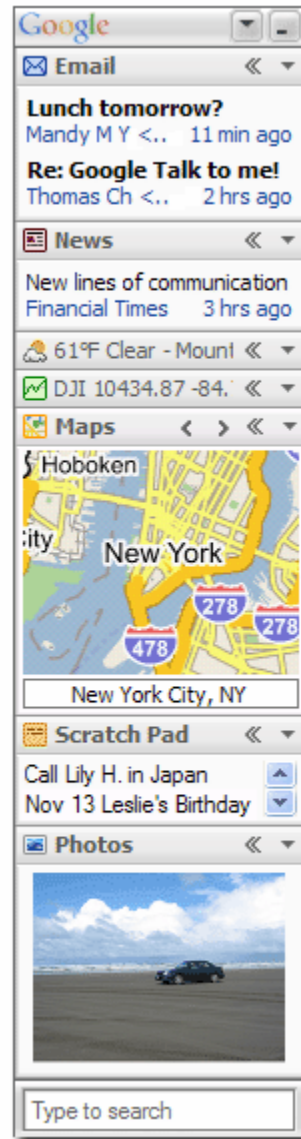
# Local Information for Local Devices



- Local for Mobile
  - detailed directions
  - search results integrated with map
  - zoom in/out, drag maps
  - satellite imagery
- free download

# Google Desktop

*"Info when you want it, right on your desktop"*

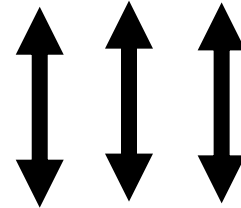


# Search Appliances



The Google Search Appliance makes the sea of lost data on your web servers, file systems and relational databases instantly available with one mouse click.

Information others provide or retrieve



Information  
you provide  
or retrieve



Information Google retrieves  
(think Googlebot)

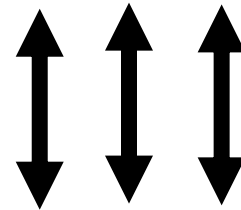


# Keyphrases

(from Google.com)

- greg conti
- gregory conti
- a framework for countering denial-of-information attacks
- ids rainstorm
- network security visualization
- 124th mi bn
- awareness teach information security filetype:pdf
- passive visual fingerprinting of network attack tools
- usma ia
- 92d information warfare aggressor squadron
- conti gatech
- greg conti rumint
- hacking and innovation cacm

Information others provide or retrieve

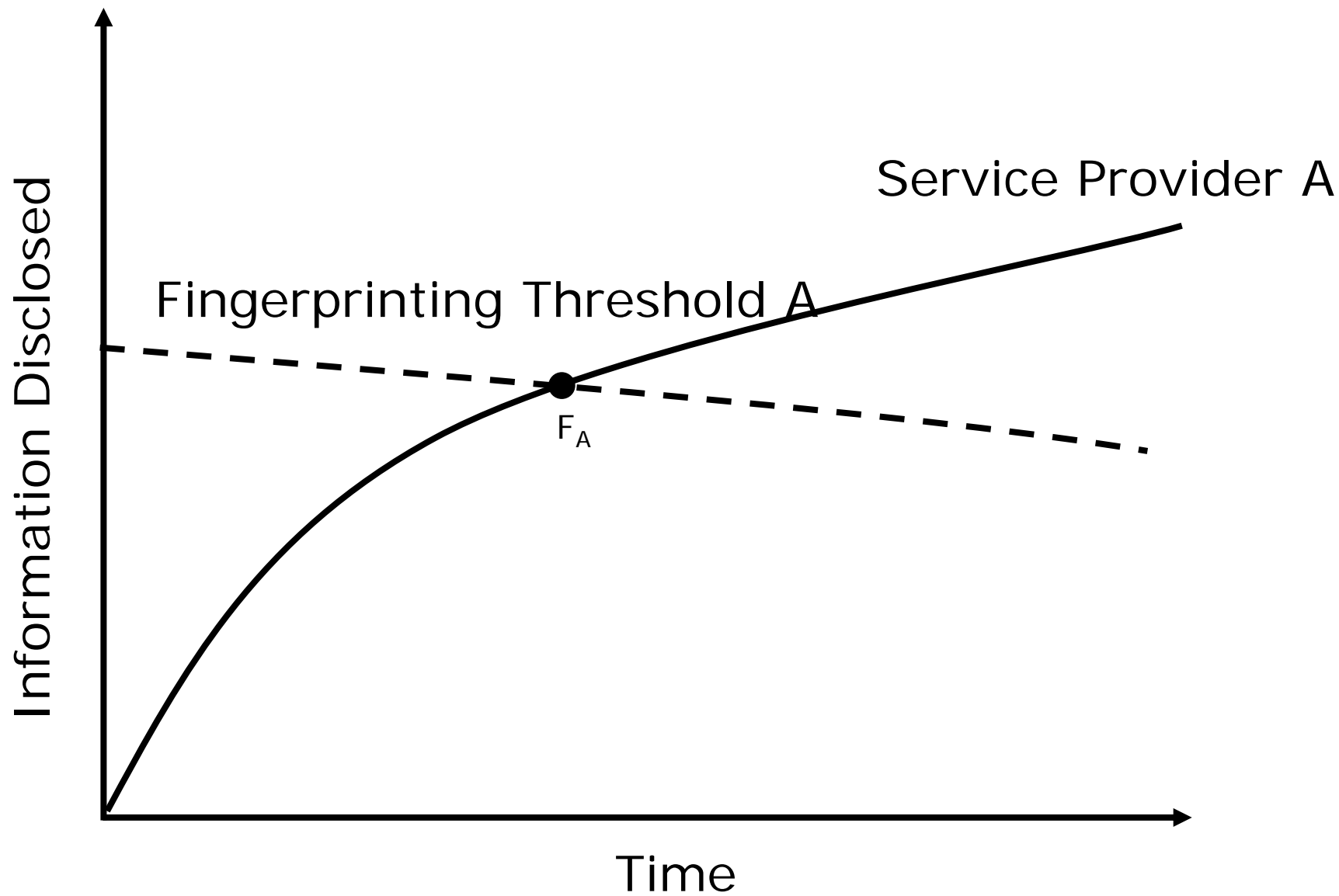


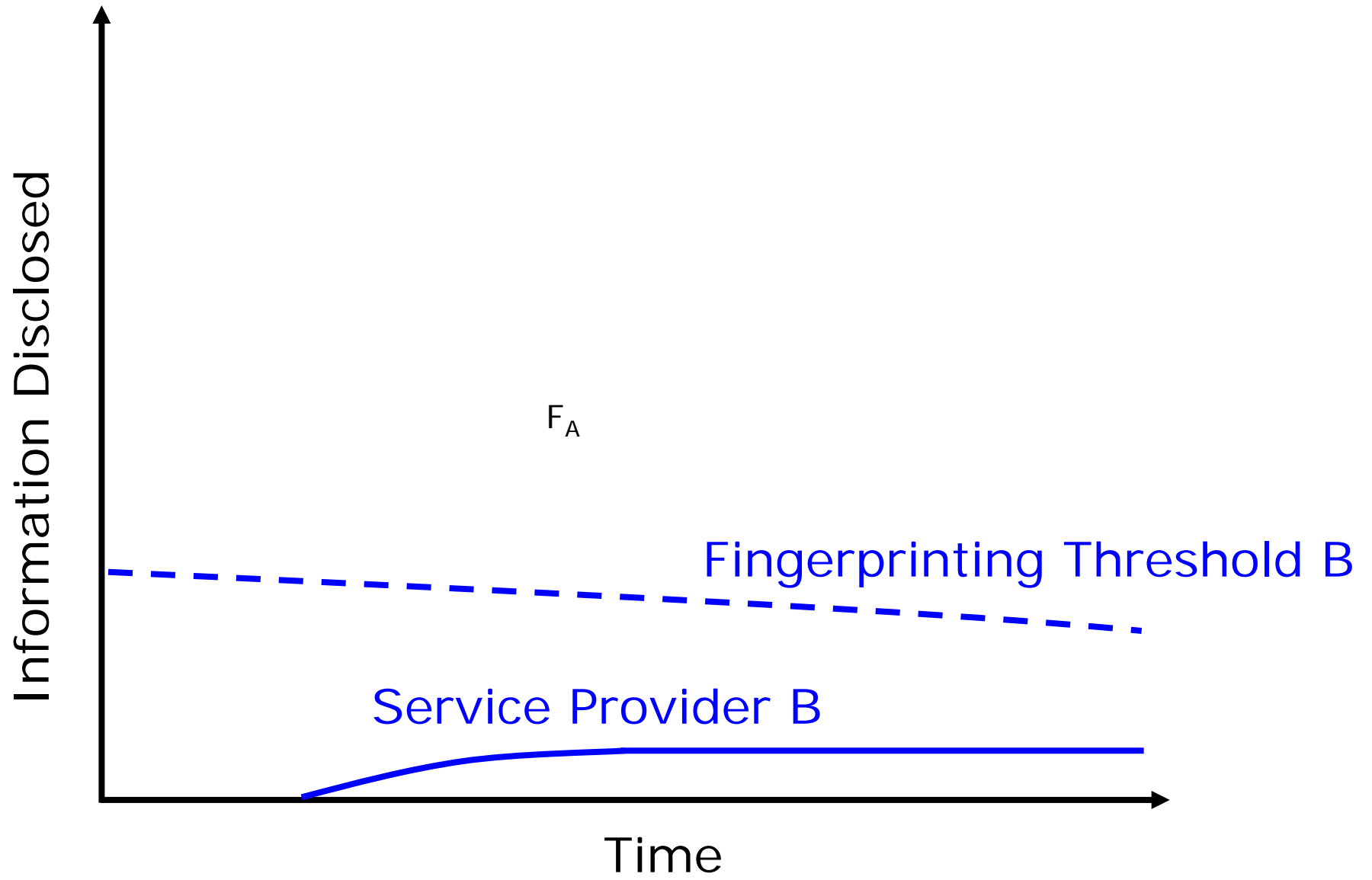
Information  
you provide  
or retrieve



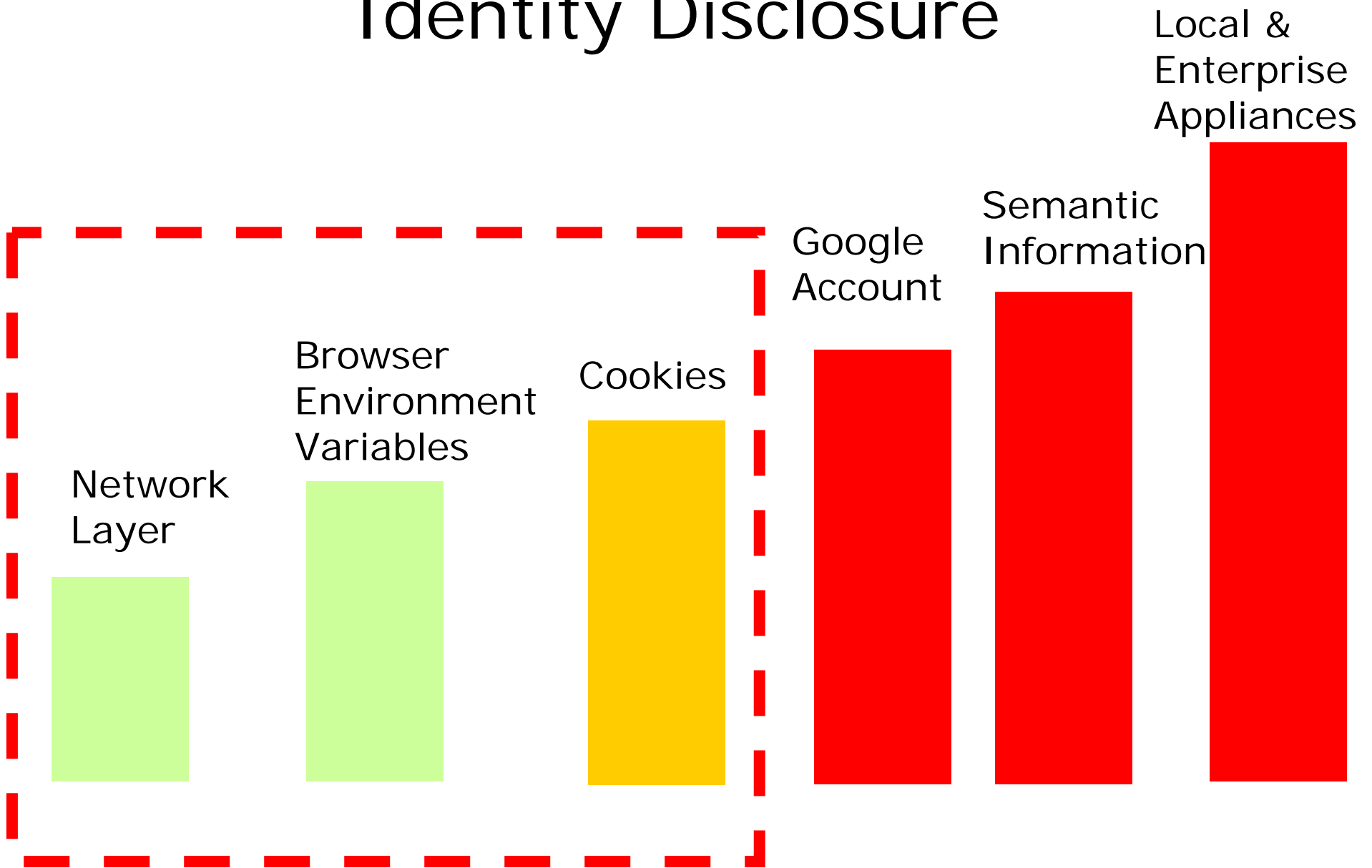
Information Google retrieves  
(think Googlebot)

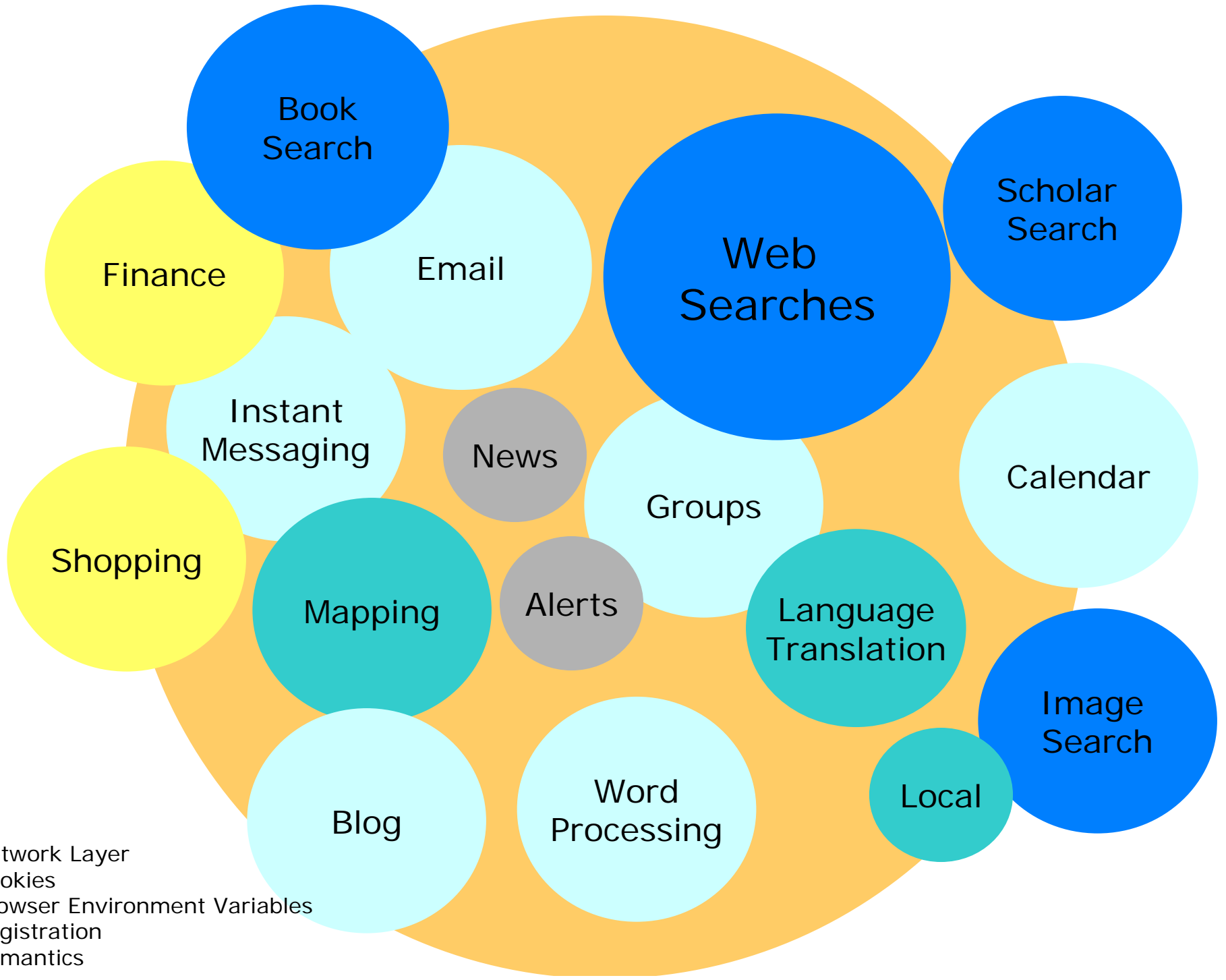
# Fingerprinting





# Identity Disclosure





Book Search

Scholar Search

Finance

Email

Web Searches

Instant Messaging

News

Groups

Calendar

Shopping

Mapping

Alerts

Language Translation

Image Search

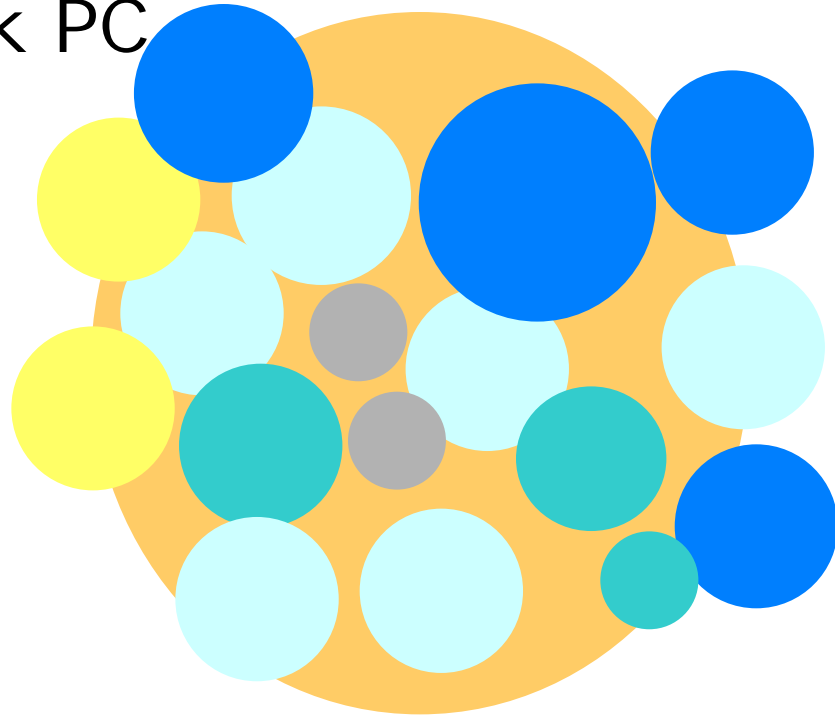
Blog

Word Processing

Local

Network Layer  
Cookies  
Browser Environment Variables  
Registration  
Semantics

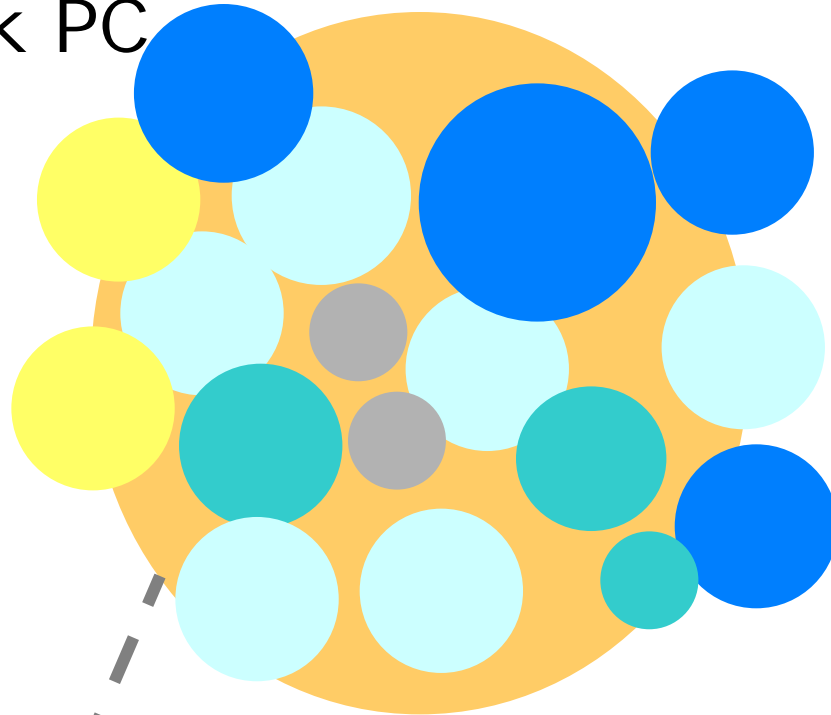
Work PC



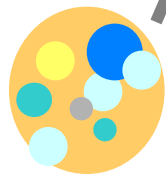
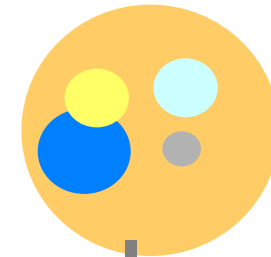
Network Layer  
Cookies  
Browser Environment Variables  
Registration  
Semantics



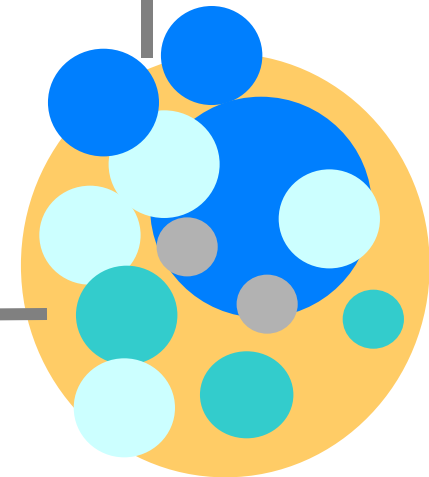
Work PC



Mobile

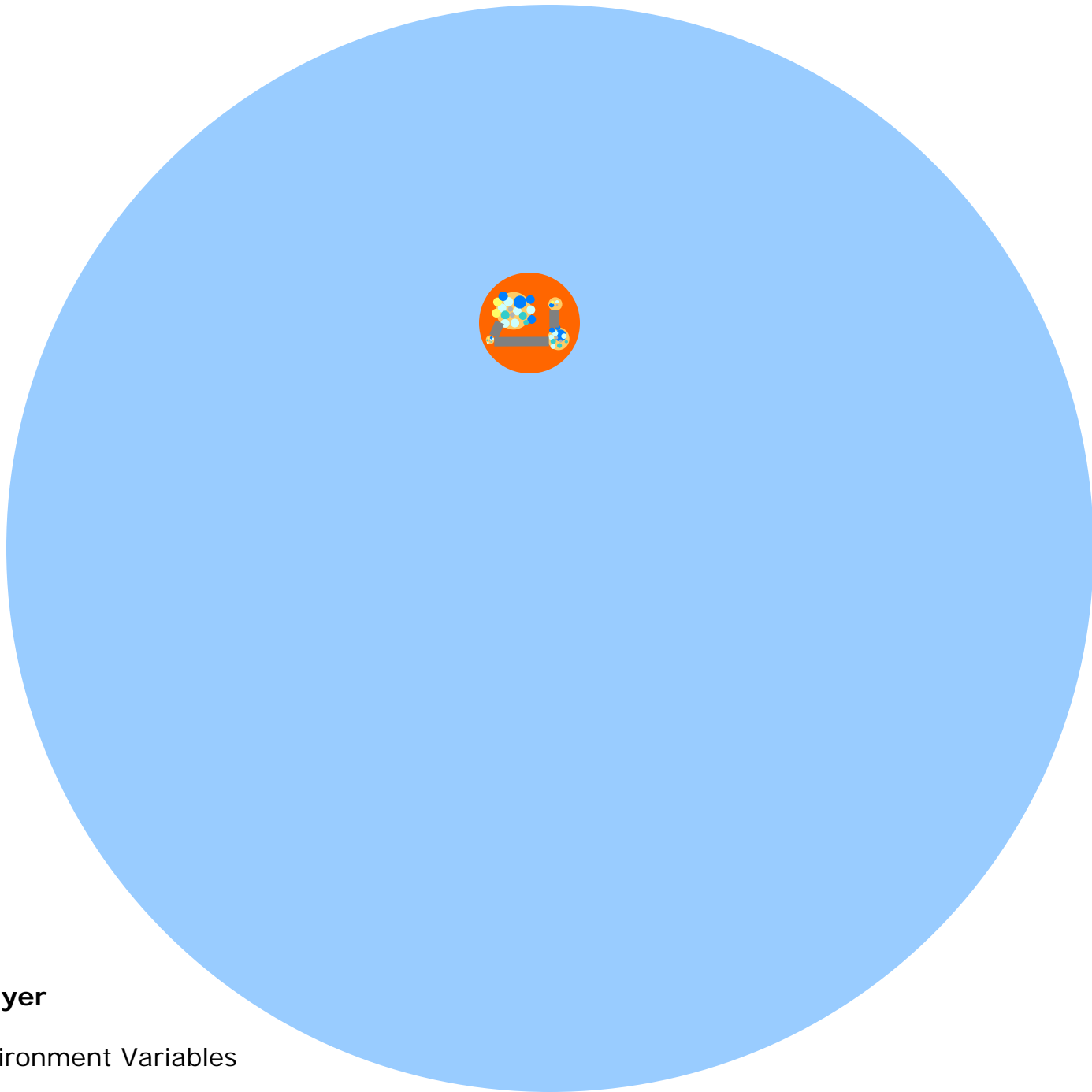


Laptop



Home PC

- Network Layer
- Cookies
- Browser Environment Variables
- Registration
- Semantics



**Network Layer**

Cookies

Browser Environment Variables

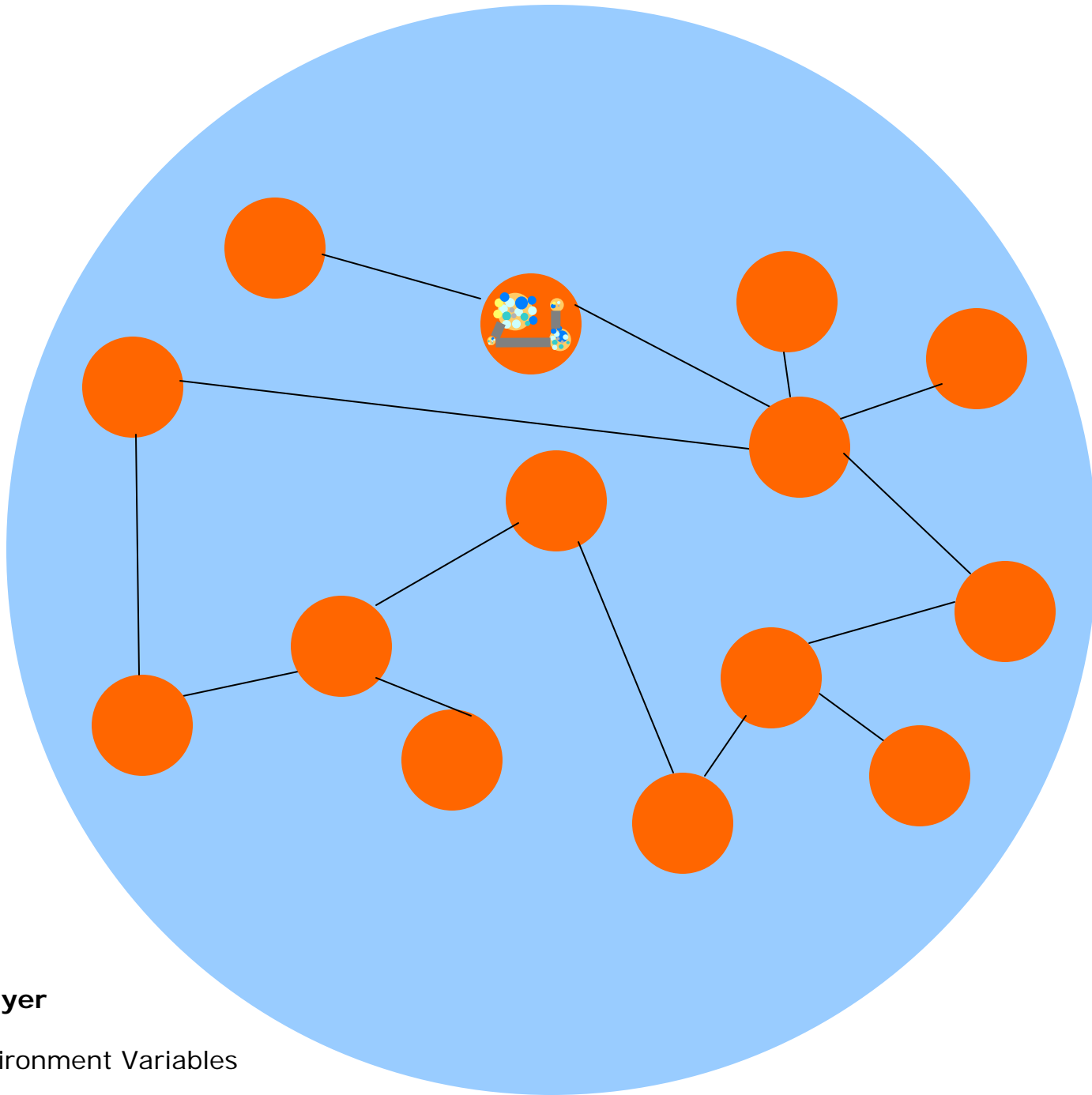
Registration

Semantics

**Company**

**Organization**

**Social Network**



**Network Layer**

Cookies  
Browser Environment Variables  
Registration  
Semantics

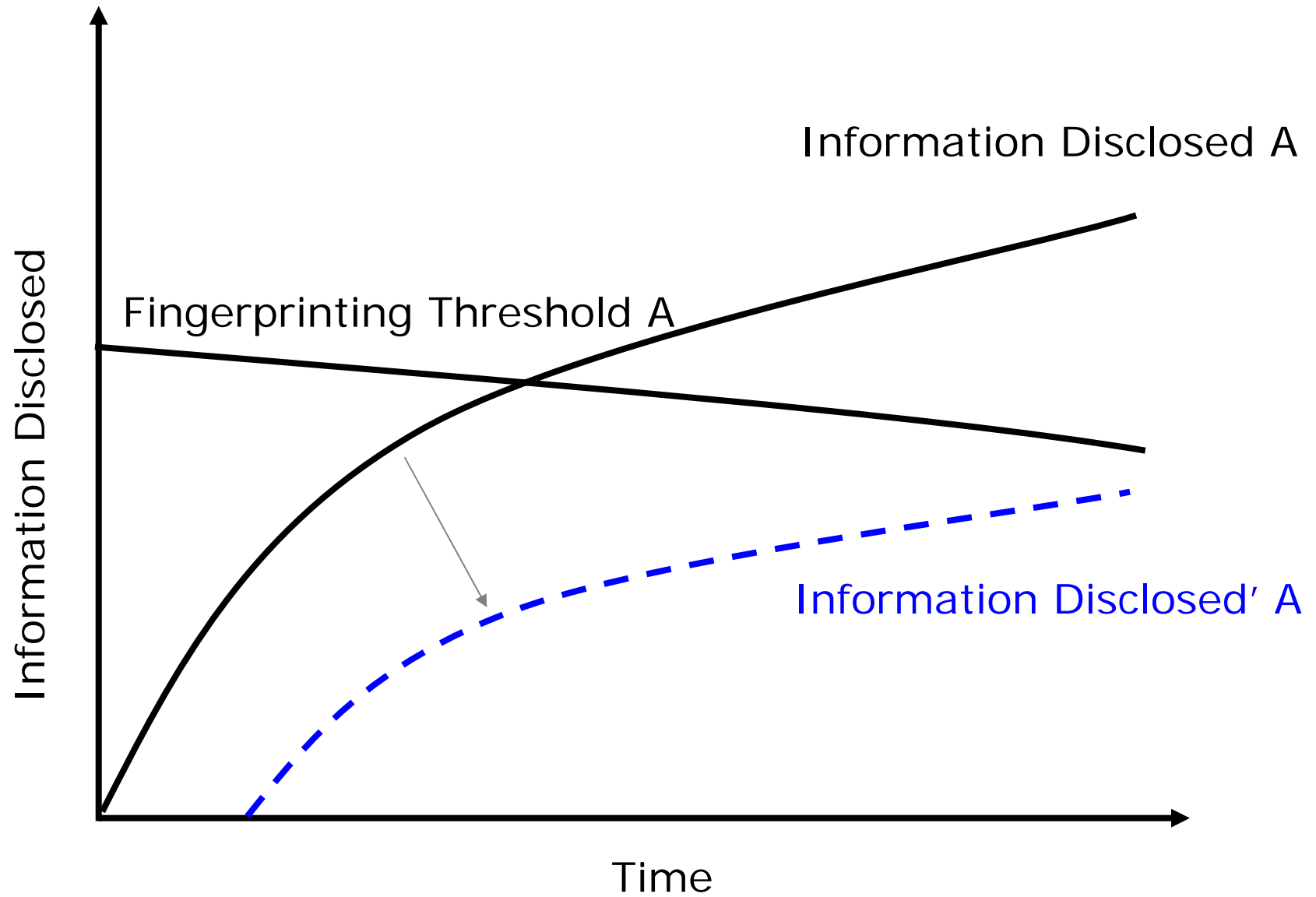
**Company  
Organization  
Social Network**

I have a Google  
cookie on my  
computer.

My Employees  
have Google  
cookies on their  
computers.

I have registered  
for a Google  
account.

# Countermeasures





# Countermeasures

- Anonymous browsing (Tor, anonymizer...)
- Diversity
- Policy/Law
- Go directly to the website you want
- Anonymizer-ish application for individuals and organizations but operates higher up the semantic scale
- Aggregators
- Encrypt content
- Switching Proxy Plug-ins
- Cookie rewriters

# Countermeasures

- Multiple email accounts, host own email
- Chaffing
- DHCP/NAT
- Retain only the “necessary” amount of information
- Time limits
- Transparency
- Opt-in / out

I actively  
manage/remove  
cookies.

I regularly use  
web  
anonymization  
tools.

# Examples

# Co-worker example #1

- 696 entries
- 18 Feb 05 - 26 Jul 06
  - 1.33 unique searches / day
- Sanitization criteria
  - names of family, close friends
  - addresses
  - credit card numbers
  - SSN's



5%  
sanitization

# Co-worker example #2

- 1264 entries,
- 9 Nov 05 - 31 Jul 06
  - 4.8 unique searches / day
- criteria
  - names
  - locations close to home
  - phone numbers
  - friends blog



24%

sanitization

# Co-worker example #3

- 3974 entries,
- 8 Dec 04 - 31 Jul 06
  - 6.6 unique searches / day
- criteria
  - names
  - friends
  - phone numbers
  - co-workers



31%

sanitization



Demo

# Discussion