



*Joint work with Sjouke Mauw (UL), Christof Ferreira Torres (UL).*

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# First

Privacy does not need to be motivated.

Invasion of privacy needs to be motivated.

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# What this presentation is about



What this presentation is about

**BBC**

DIE ZEIT



Le Monde

EL PAÍS



## What this presentation is about

**BBC**

**DI**



**Le Monde**

**EL PAÍS**

- current politics
- tech news
- no sports
- can read 5 languages
- german gossip news



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**BBC**



**DI**



**ML**



**Le Monde**



**EL PAÍS**

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# Contributions

- Distinguish between local and cross-domain tracking
- Fingerprint privacy via separating web identities
- Proof-of-concept implementation
  - v1.0: <http://esorics2015.sba-research.org/>
  - Latest: <https://github.com/ChristofTorres/FP-Block>
- Determined common fingerprint vectors



## Embedded content

1. Content delivery networks
2. Advertising
3. Analytics and tracking
4. Embedded media
5. Social plugins
6. Payment
7. Libraries
8. ....



	Top 10k	Top 1mil
1. Akamai	17%	11%
2. Doubleclick	10%	20%
3. Google Analytics	19%	44%
4. YouTube	26%	47%
5. Facebook Like+	20%	16%
6. PayPal button	33%	44%
7. JQuery	18%	20%

The PayPal logo, featuring the word "PayPal" in a blue, italicized font.



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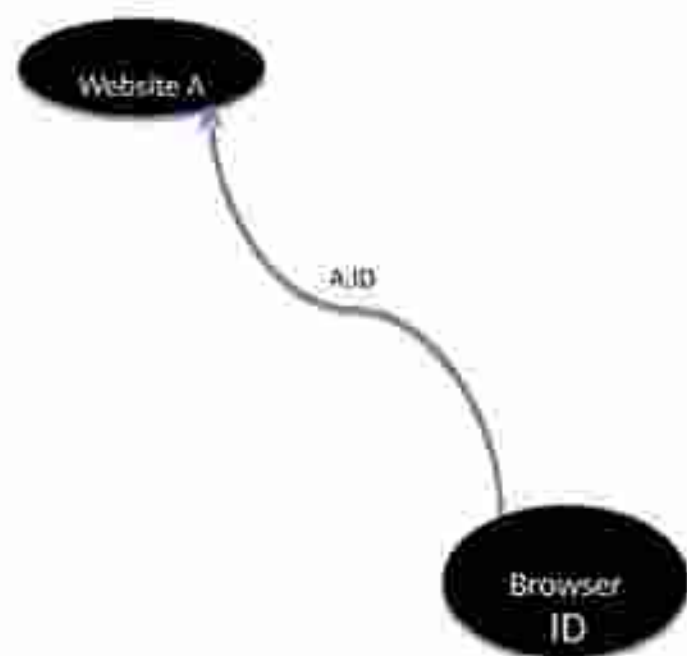
7. Libraries

8. ....

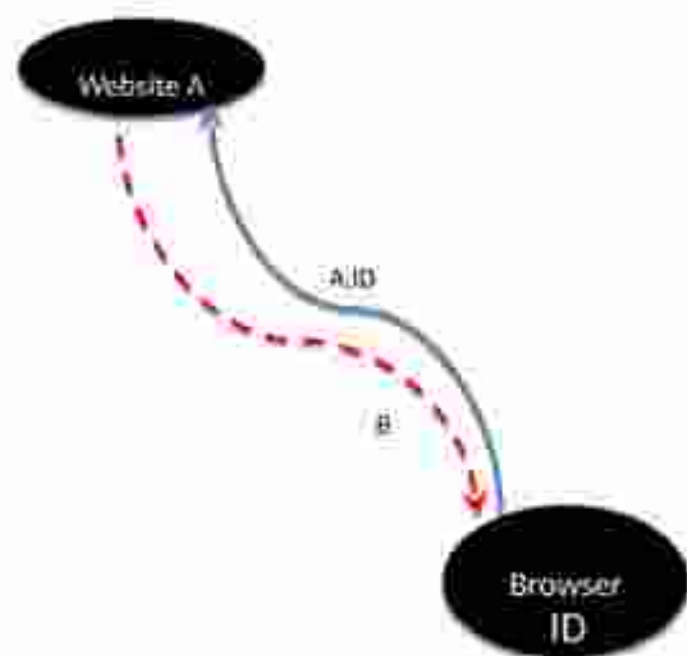
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\* aggregated numbers from [builtwith.com](http://builtwith.com).  
numbers by [similartech.com](http://similartech.com) are higher.

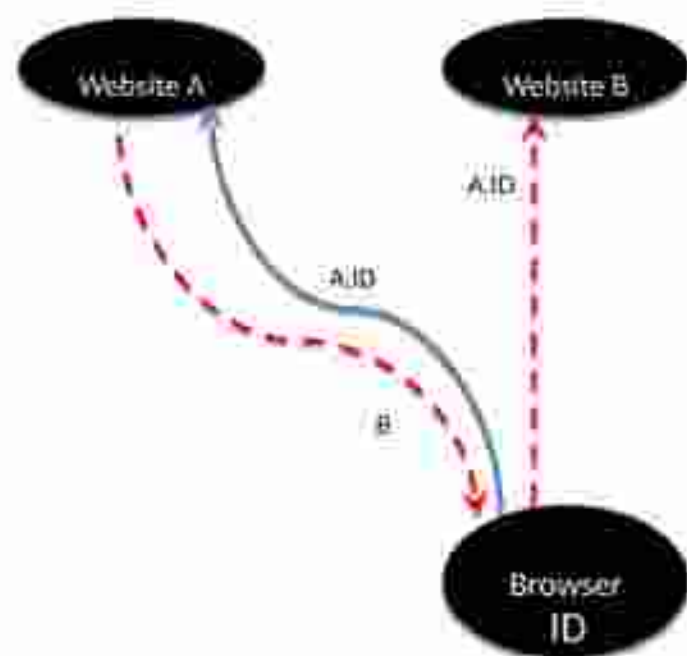
## Tracking via embedded content



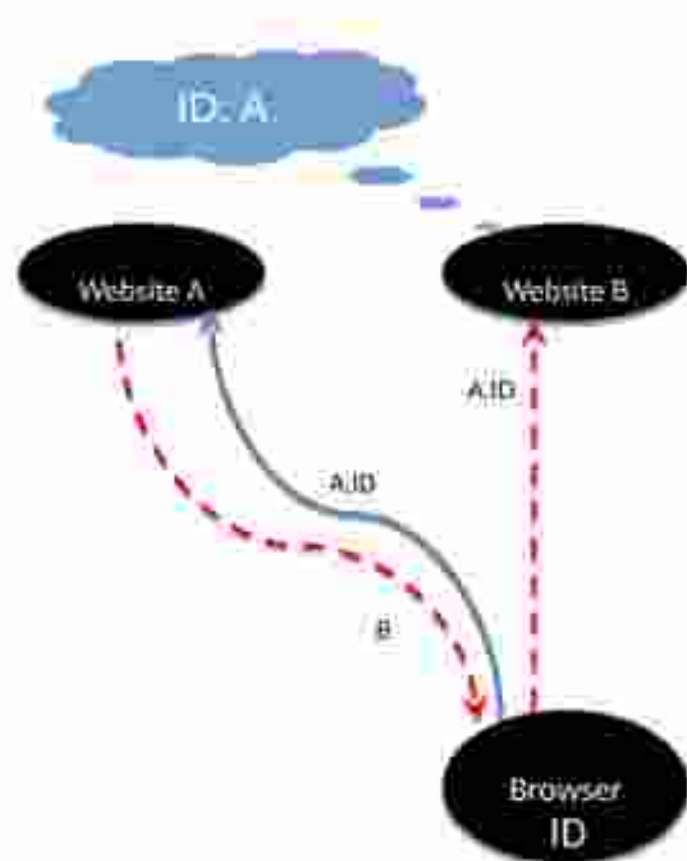
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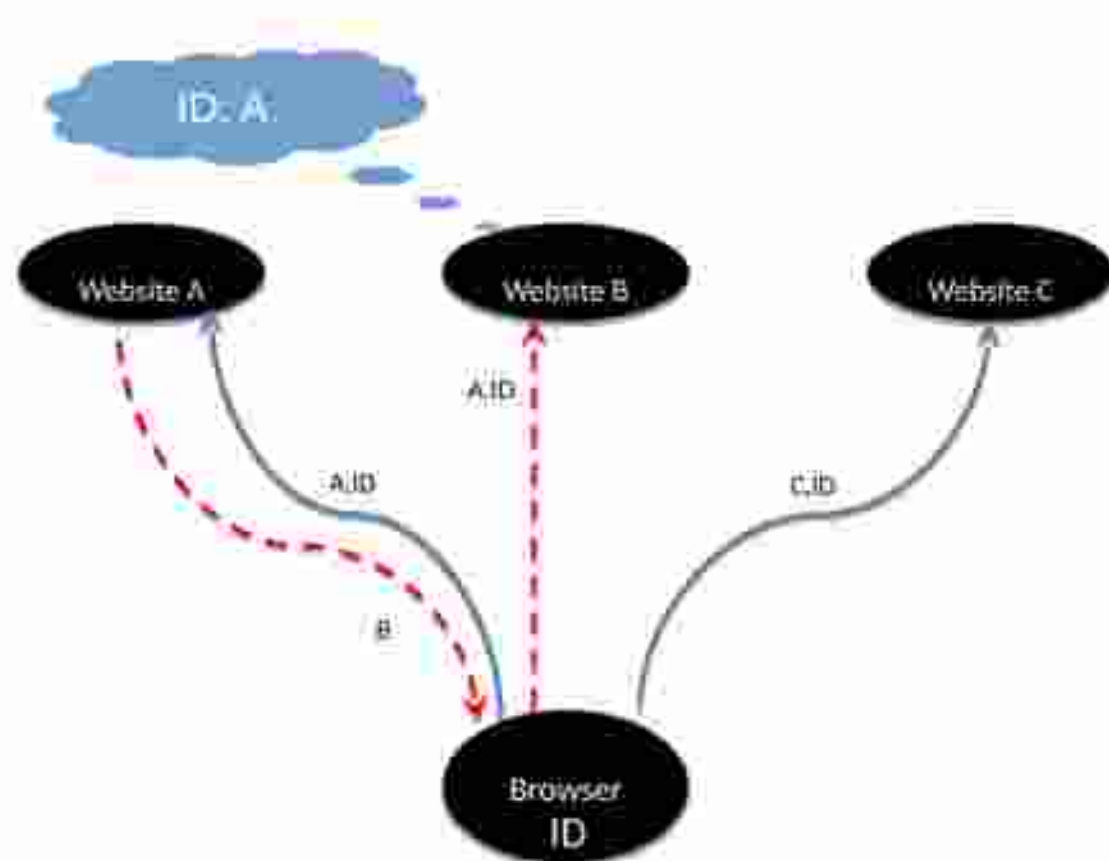
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# Tracking via embedded content

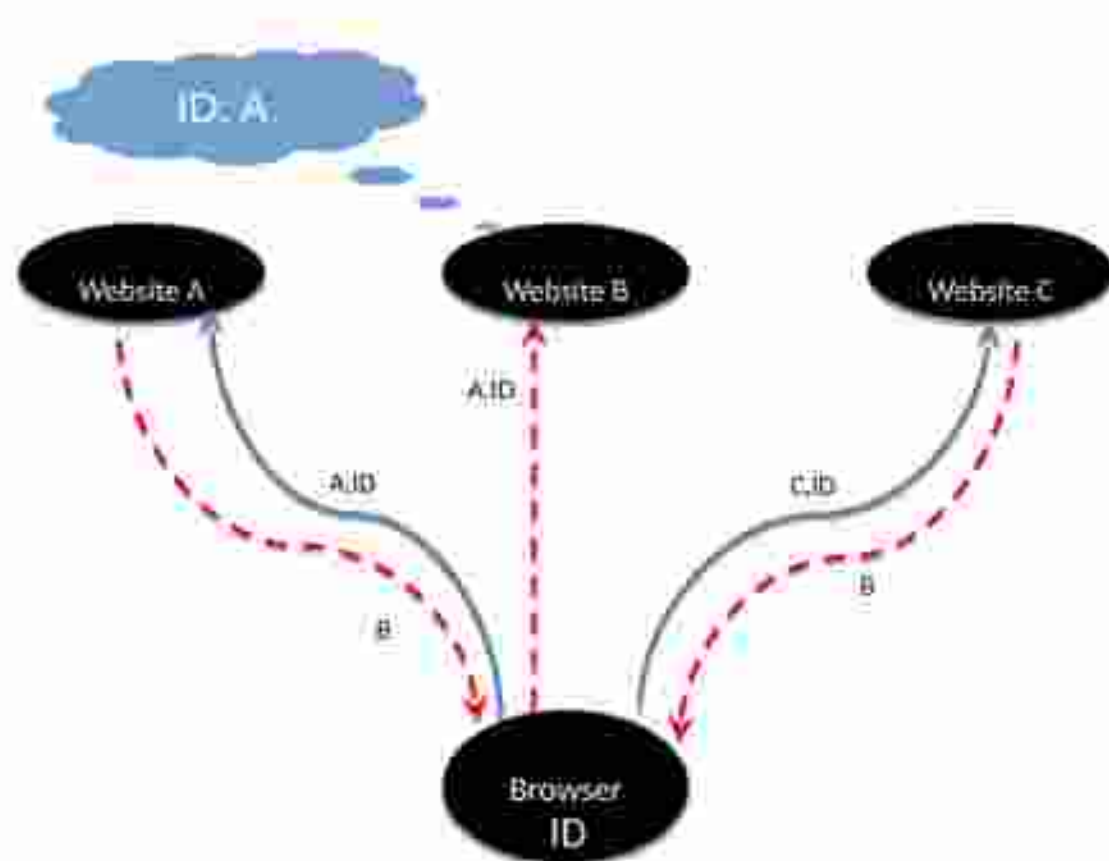


# Tracking via embedded content

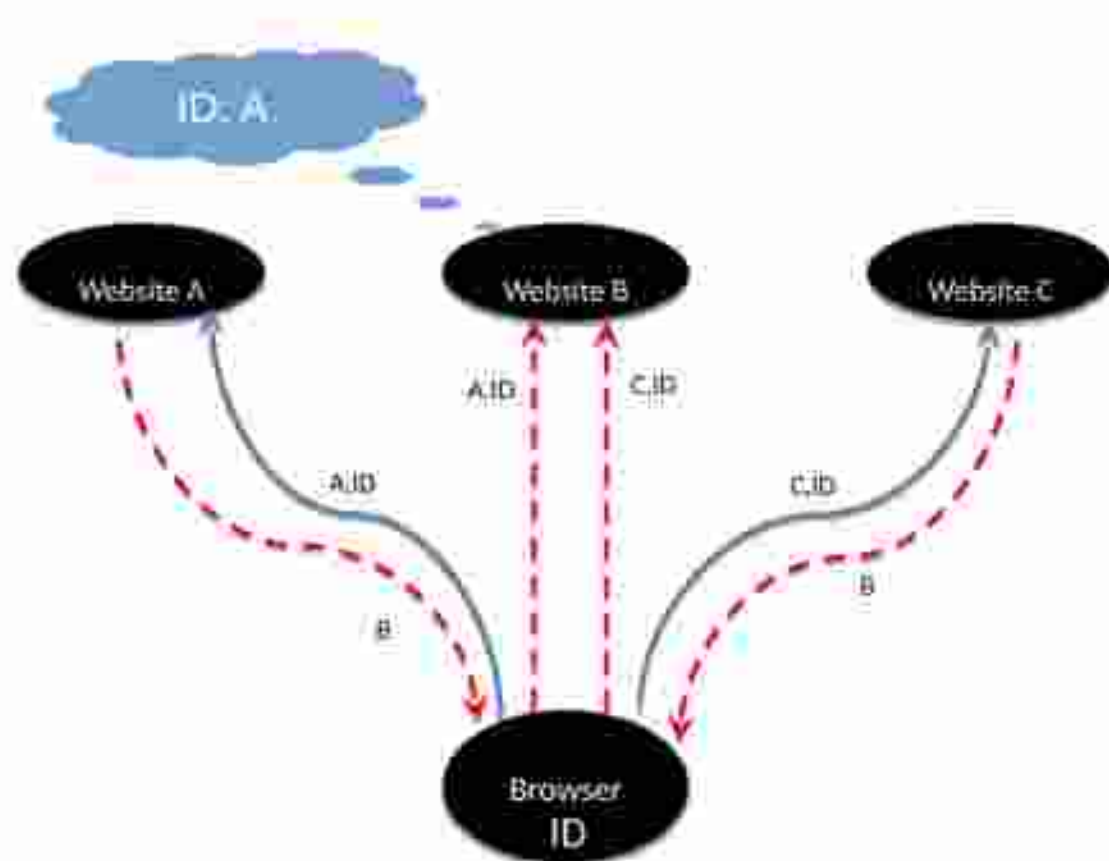




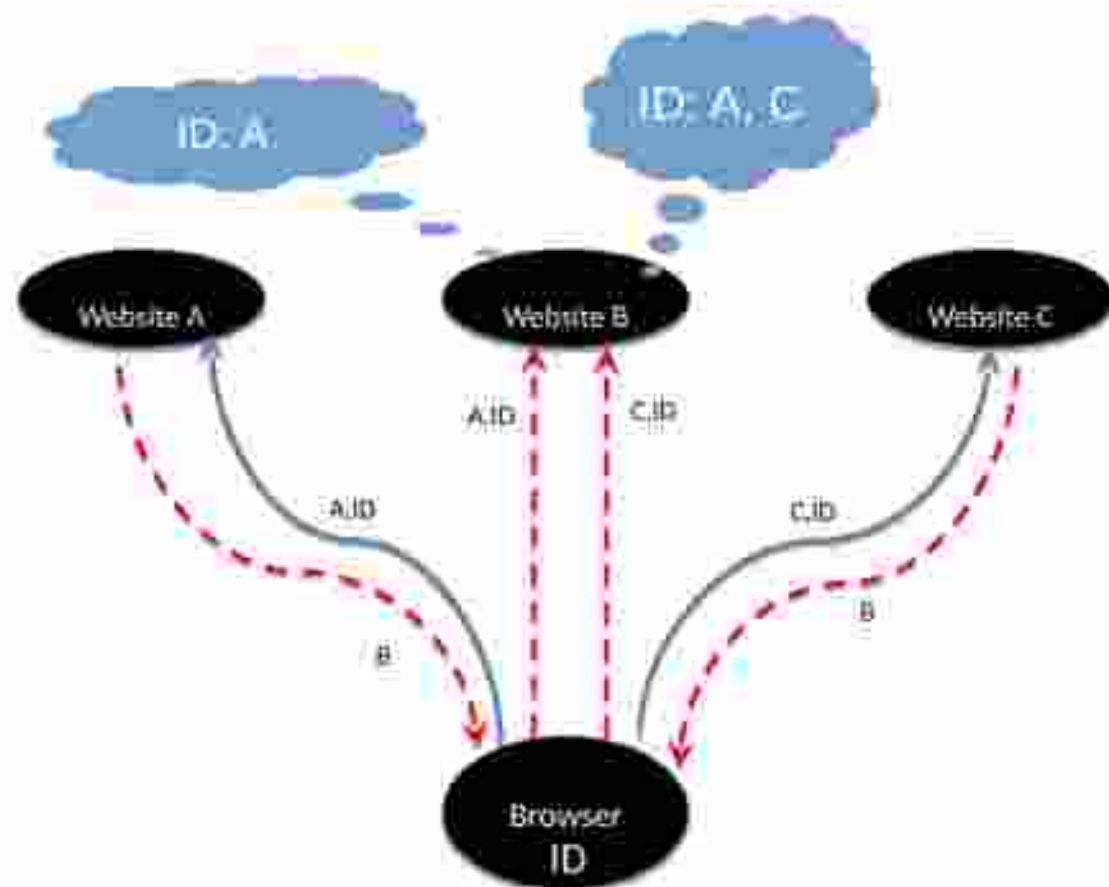
# Tracking via embedded content



# Tracking via embedded content



# Tracking via embedded content



# Tracking: fingerprint or cookies?

- Cookies: client-side **storage**.
- Fingerprinting:
  - Passive: infer info from server side.
  - Active: gather info from client side **on-the-fly**.

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- Effective?
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# Tracking: fingerprint or cookies?

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  - **Firefox 42 Beta will lead to increase.**

## Fighting fingerprinting

- Do Not Track header? [NSDI12]: **X**
- Blacklisting fingerprinters? [W2SP11]: **X**
- FireGloves [NordSec11]? [CCS13]: **X**
- Tor Browser? [CCS13]: **X**

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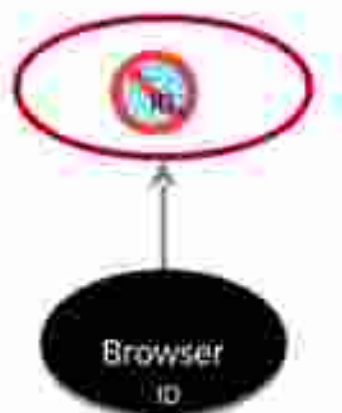
Any countermeasure can be broken if **specifically** targetted.

Idea:

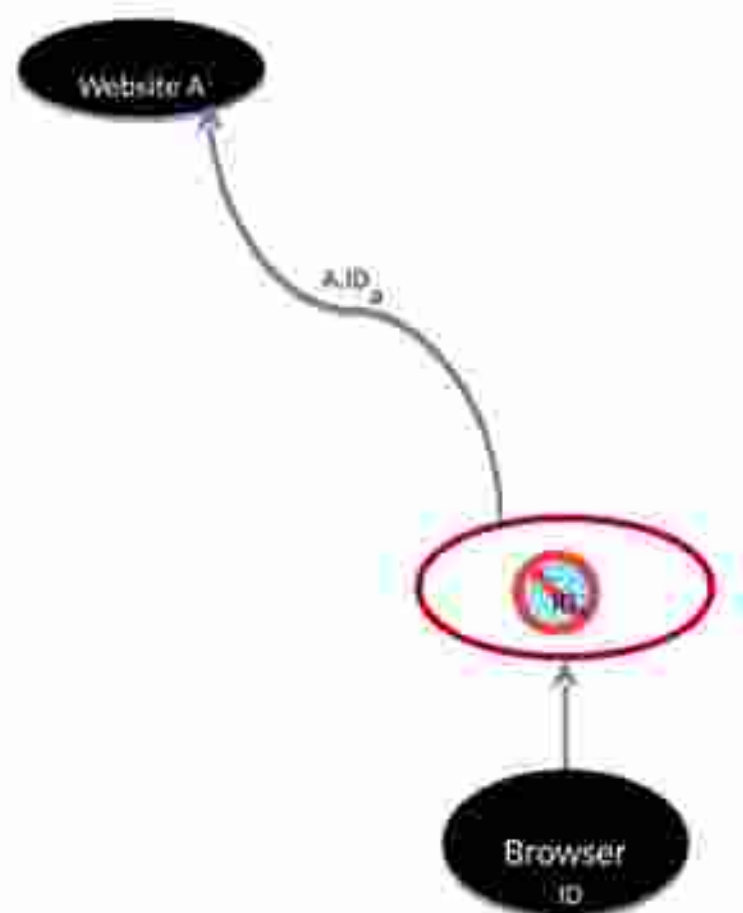
- local tracking okay,
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party tracking not



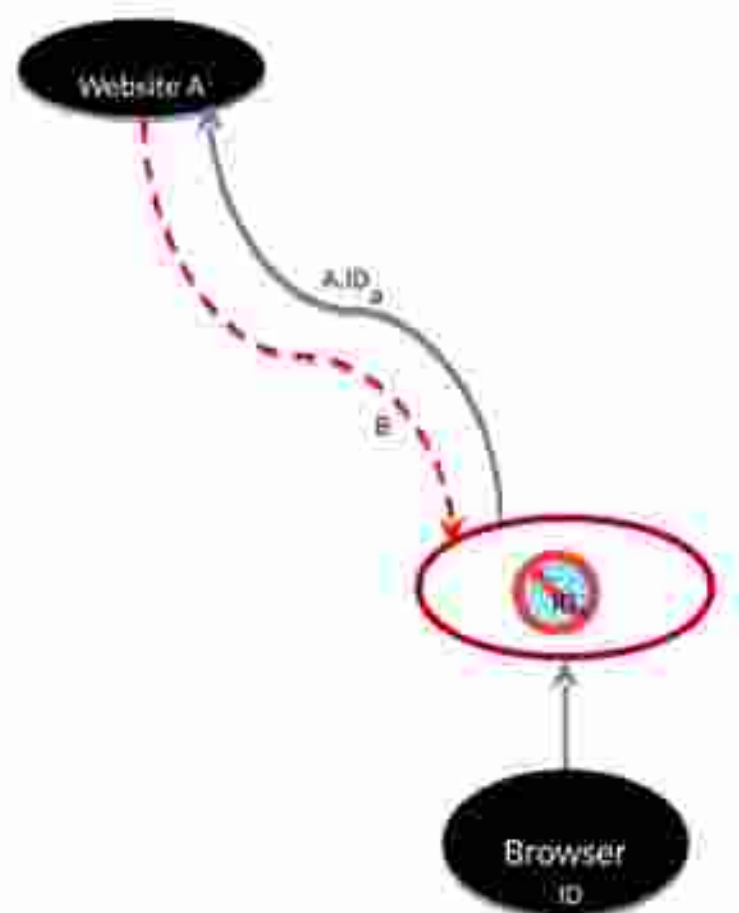
## Separate web identities



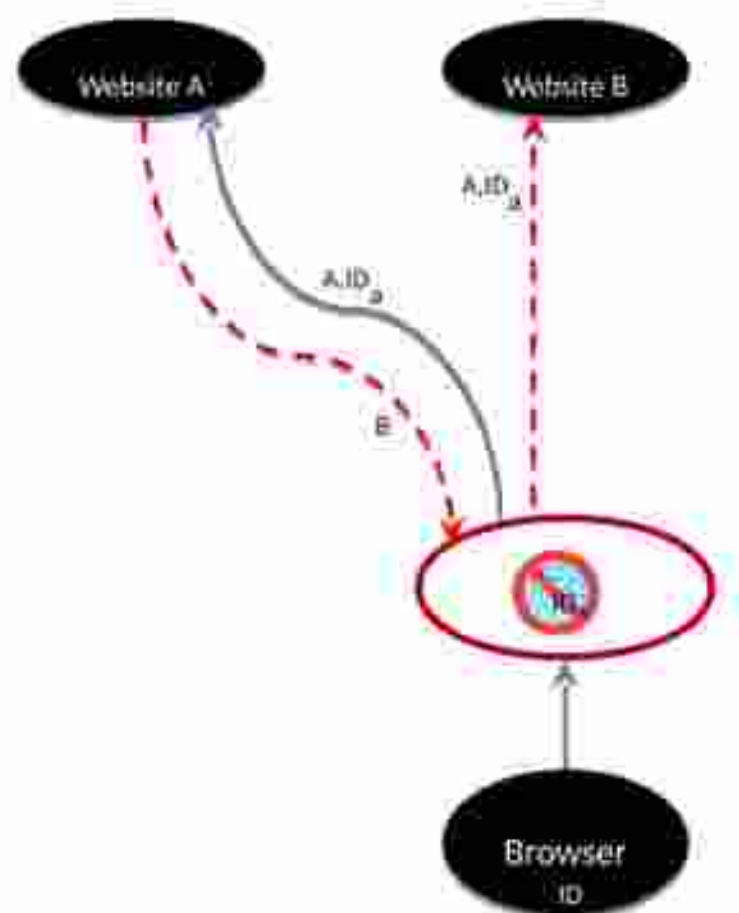
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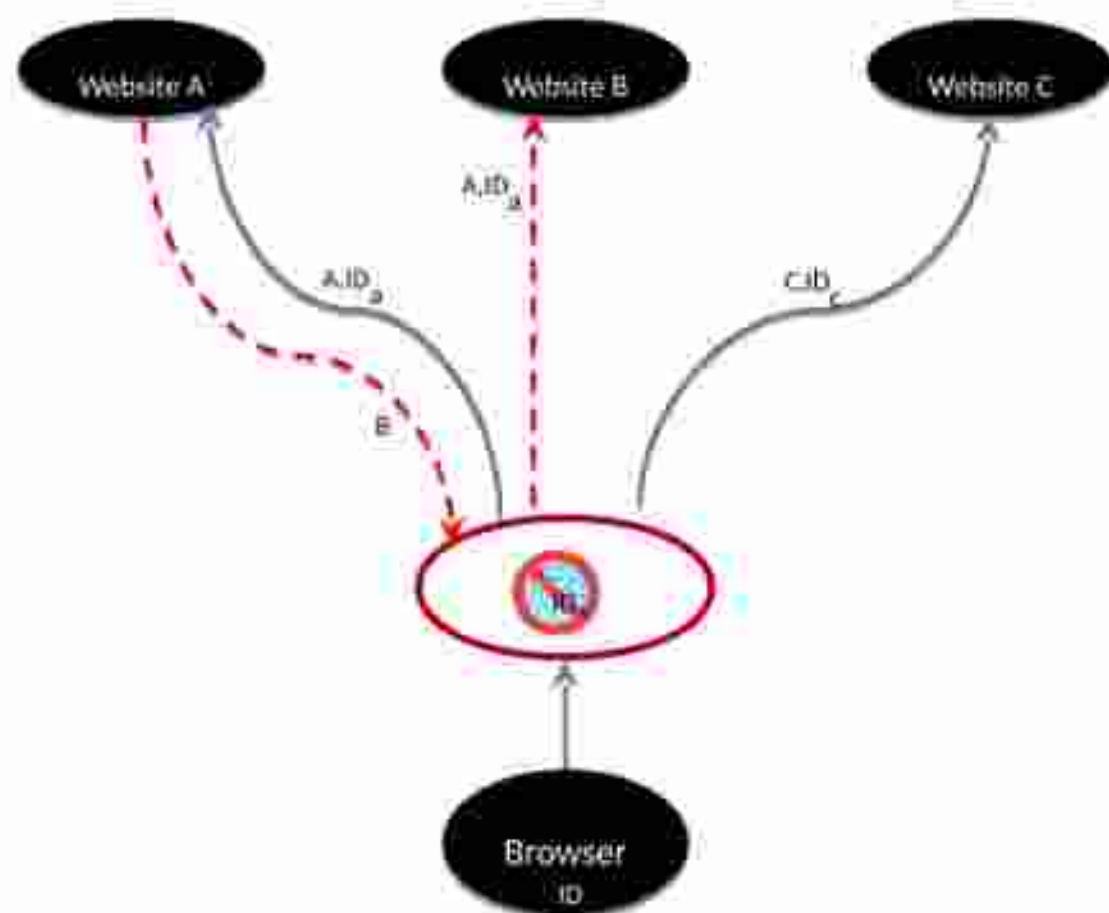
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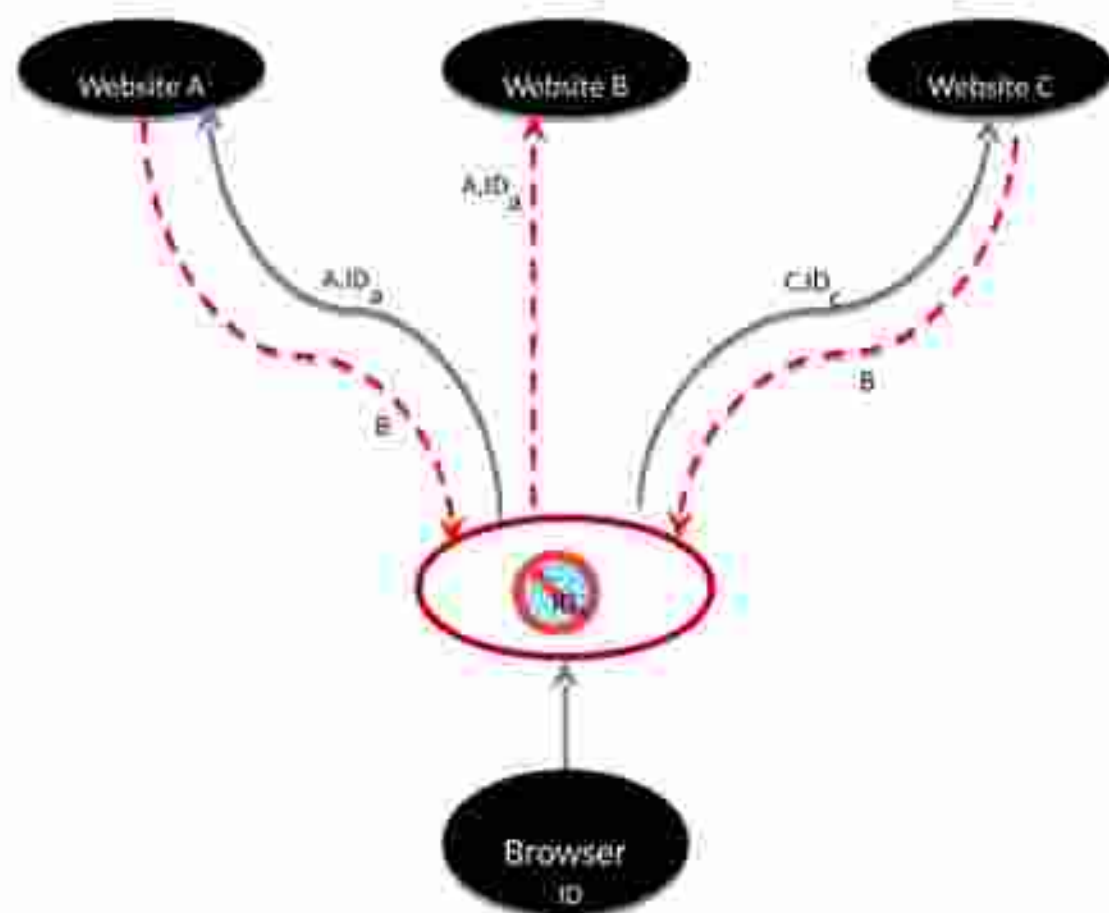
## Separate web identities



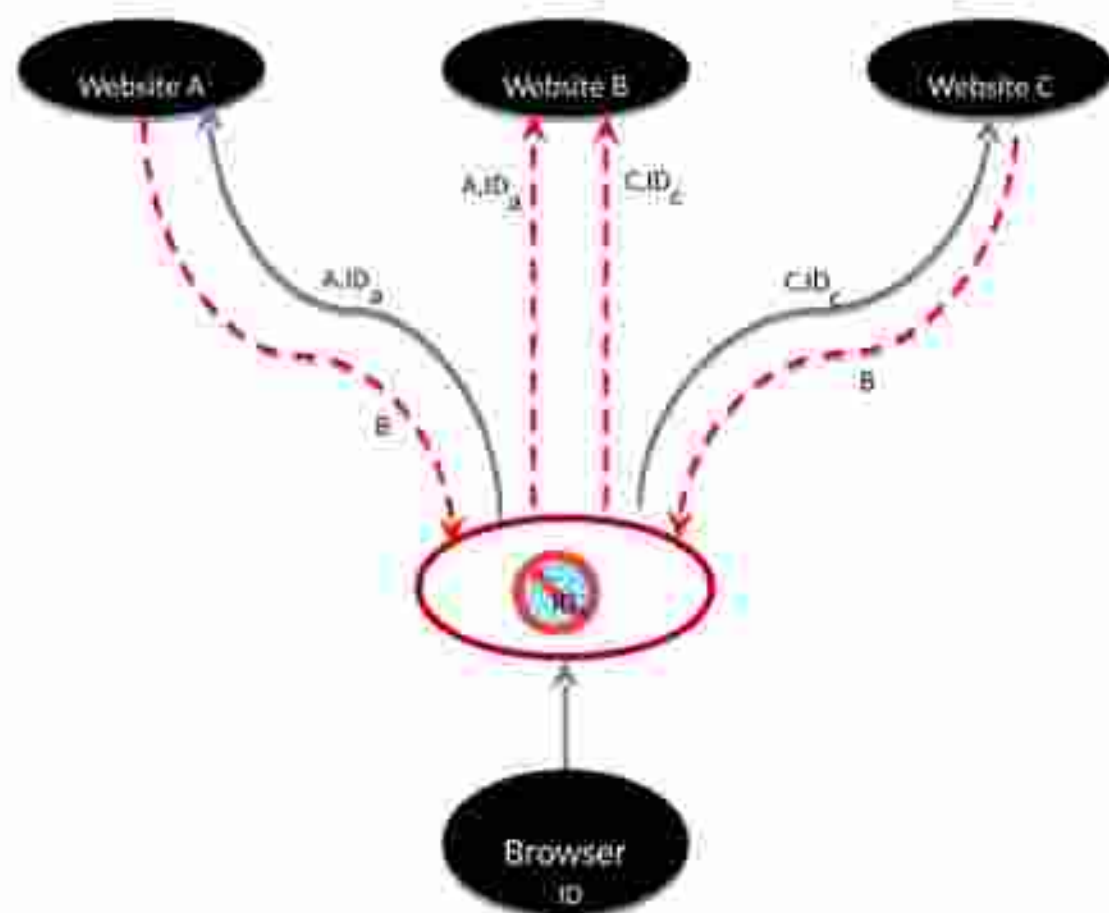
## Separate web identities



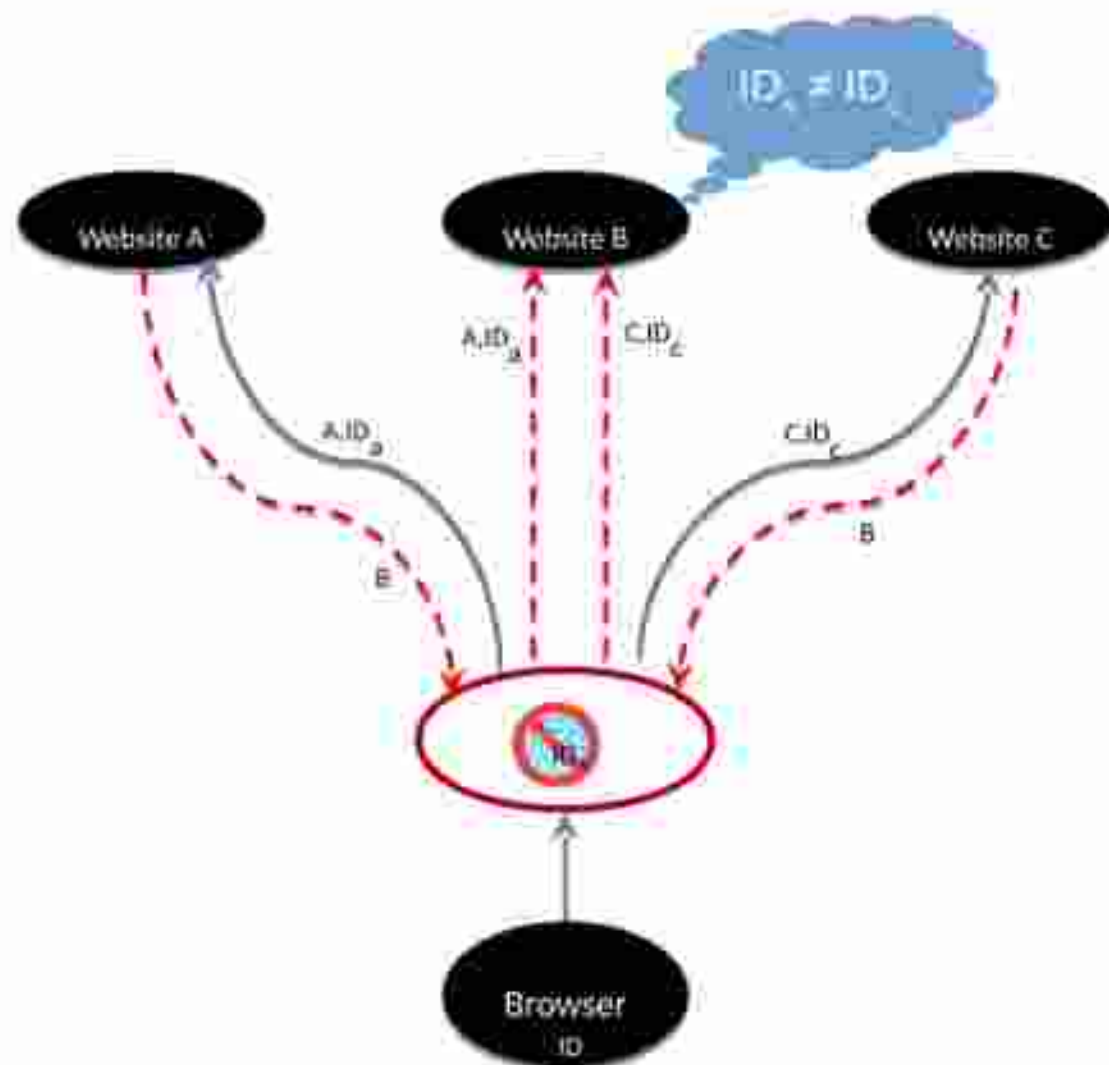
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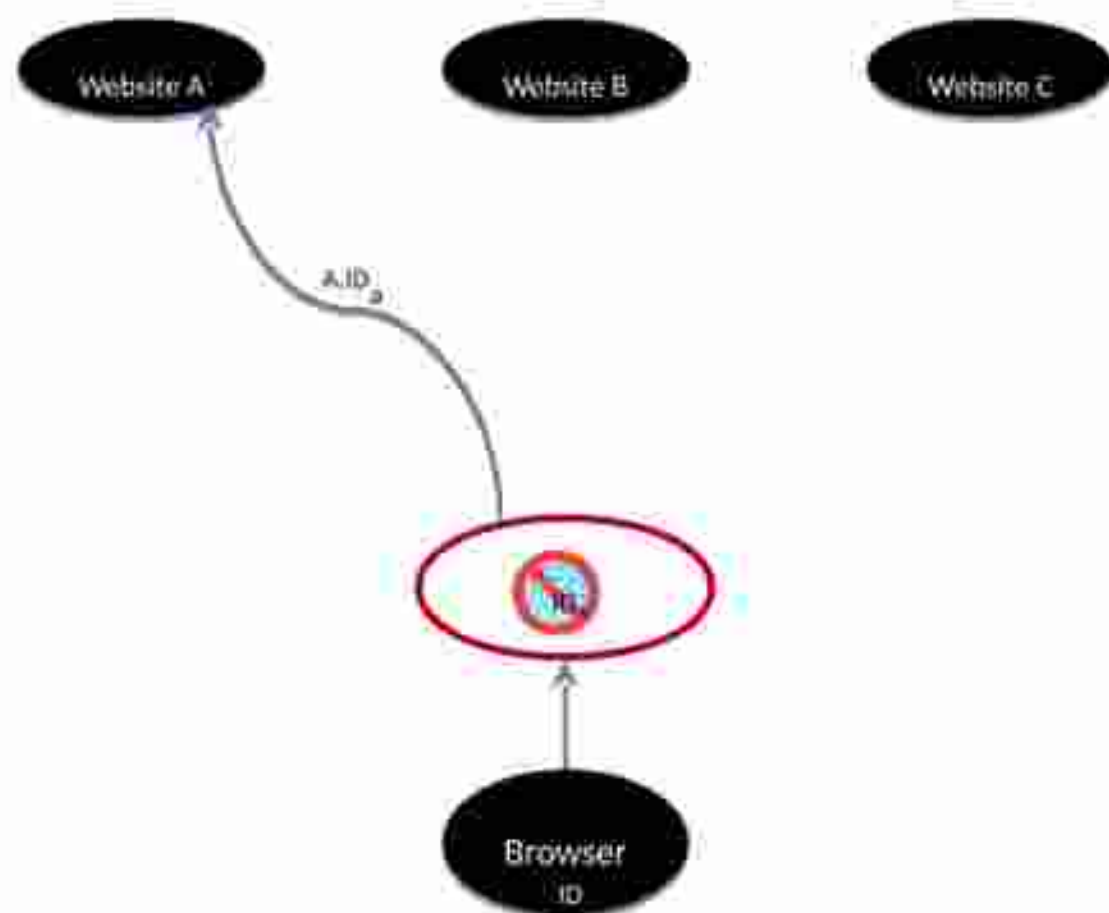


## Separate web identities

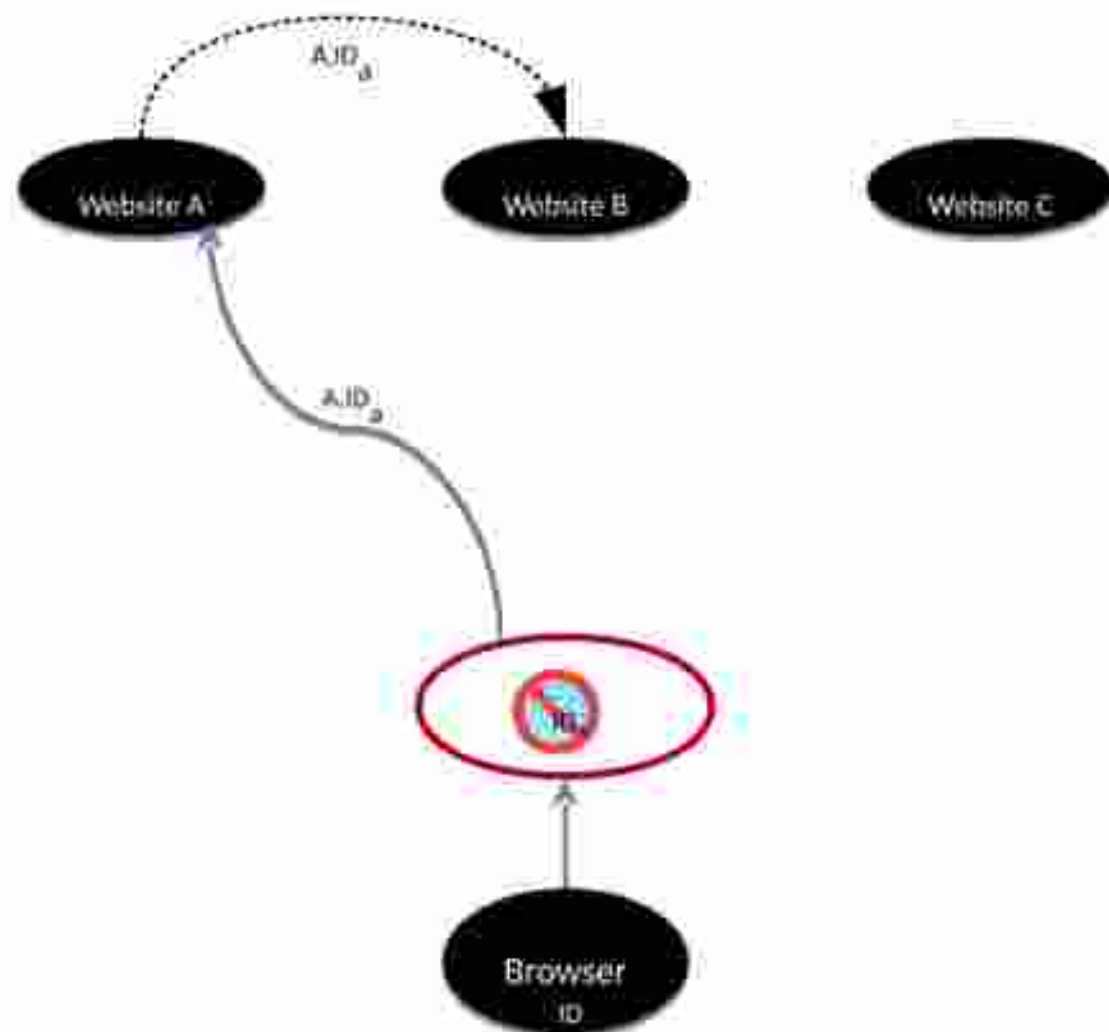




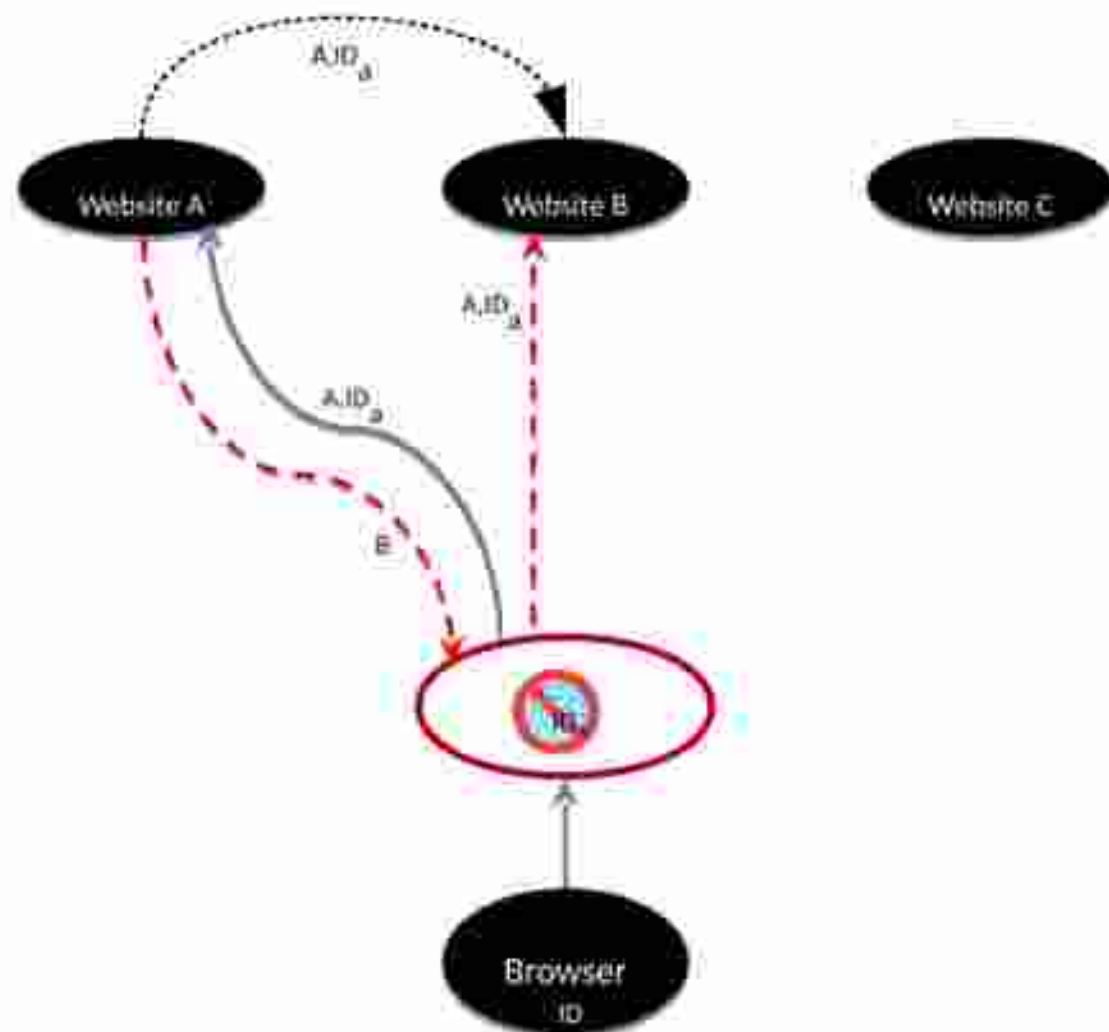
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# Fingerprinters

## Non-profit:

- Panopticlick
  - academic study
- FingerPrintJS
  - open source

## Commercial:

- AddThis
  - social media buttons
- BlueCava
  - advertisements
- Iovation
  - fraud prevention
- ThreatMetrix
  - fraud prevention

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## Fingerprint vectors

- ✓: this work
- √: [S&P13]
- -: [S&P13], but dropped

Attribute	Pass	IS	IO	TM	MM	FF
Plugins Enumeration	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Font Detection	✓	✓		✓		
User-Agent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HTTP Header Accept	✓					
HTTP Header Accept-Charset	✓					
HTTP Header Accept-Encoding	✓					
HTTP Header Accept-Language	✓					
Screen Resolution	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Timezone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Browser Language		✓	✓	-	✓	✓
OS & Kernel Version		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DOM Storage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
IE userData	✓	✓				
Java Enabled	✓				✓	
IE7 User Choice		-			✓	✓
Cookies Enabled	✓		✓			
JS detect: Flash Enabled	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ActiveX + CLSIDs	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Date & Time		✓	✓	✓	✓	
CPU		✓	✓		✓	✓
System/User Language		✓	✓		✓	
OpenDatabase			✓		✓	✓
Cursors/Fingerprinting					✓	✓
Minor-type Enumeration	✓			✓		
HTTP Proxy Detection			✓	✓		
IndexedDB					✓	✓
Math Constants		✓			✓	
Windows Registry		✓	✓			
TCP/IP Parameters		✓	✓			
Google Gears Detection		✓				
Flash Manufacturer				✓		
MSE Security Policy		✓				
AJAX Implementation		✓				
MSE Product Key			✓			
Device Enumeration		✓				
Device Identifiers			✓			
IP address		✓				
HTML Body Behavior						✓
Outlook					✓	
WebGLRenderingContext					✓	



## Proof-of-concept: FP-Block plugin

- Generates **consistent** fingerprint
- One fingerprint per primary domain
- 23 attributes (Tor: 14, FireGloves: 8)
- Covers
  - HTTP (passive fingerprinting)
  - JavaScript (active fingerprinting)
- Additional coverage to ensure functionality
- Canvas fingerprint
  - detection [CCS14]
  - prevention (new)

# FP-Block's fingerprint surface

Attribute	FF	IE	FF	IEAS	FFU
Plugin Enumeration	✓	✓	✓		✓
Flash Detection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
User Agent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HTTP Header Accept					
HTTP Header Accept-Charset		✓			
HTTP Header Accept-Encoding				✓	✓
HTTP Header Accept-Language		✓		✓	✓
Screen Resolution	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Timezone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Browser Language	✓				✓
OS & Kernel Version	✓	✓		✓	✓
DOM Storage				✓	✓
IE userData					
Java Enabled					✓
IE8 User Choice				✓	✓
Cookies Enabled					✓
JS detect: Flash Enabled					✓
ActiveX + CLSIDs					
Date & Time					
HTTP				✓	✓
System/ User Language					✓
OpenDataView					✓
Canvas Fingerprinting		✓		✓	✓
Flash type: Emulation	✓	✓	✓		✓
HTTP Page & Redirect					
IndexedDB					✓
Math Constants					
Windows Registry					
TCP/IP Parameters		✓			
Google Chrome Detection					
Flash Manufacturer					
IE8: Security Filter					
AJAX Implementation					
IE8: Product key					
Device Enumeration					
Device Identification					
IP address		✓			
HTML Body Behavior					
Battery		✓			✓
WebGL Rendering Context		✓		✓	✓



# FP-Block's fingerprint surface

Attribute	FF	IE	OP	KA5	FFPU
Plugin Enumeration	✓	✓	✓		✓
Flash Detection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
User-Agent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HTTP Header Accept					
HTTP Header Accept-Charset		✓			
HTTP Header Accept-Encoding				✓	✓
HTTP Header Accept-Language		✓		✓	✓
Screen Resolution	✓	✓		✓	✓
Timezone	✓	✓		✓	✓
Browser Language	✓				✓
OS & Kernel Version	✓	✓		✓	✓
DOM Storage				✓	✓
IE userData					
Java Enabled					✓
IE8 User Choice				✓	✓
Cookies Enabled					✓
JS detect: Flash Enabled					✓
ActiveX + CLSIDs					
Date & Time					
HTTP				✓	✓
System / User Language					✓
Open Web					✓
Custom Fingerprinting		✓		✓	✓
ImageType / Canvas Fingerprint	✓	✓	✓		✓
HTTP Page & Redirects					
IndexedDB					✓
Math Computations					
Windows Registry					
TCP/IP Parameters		✓			
Google Chrome Detection					
Flash Manufacturer					
IE8: Security Folly					
AJAX Implementation					
IE8: Product key					
Device Enumeration					
Device Identification					
IP address		✓			
HTML Body Behavior					
Battery		✓			✓
WebGL/Resolving Content		✓		✓	✓

# FP-Block's fingerprint surface

Original canvas

+

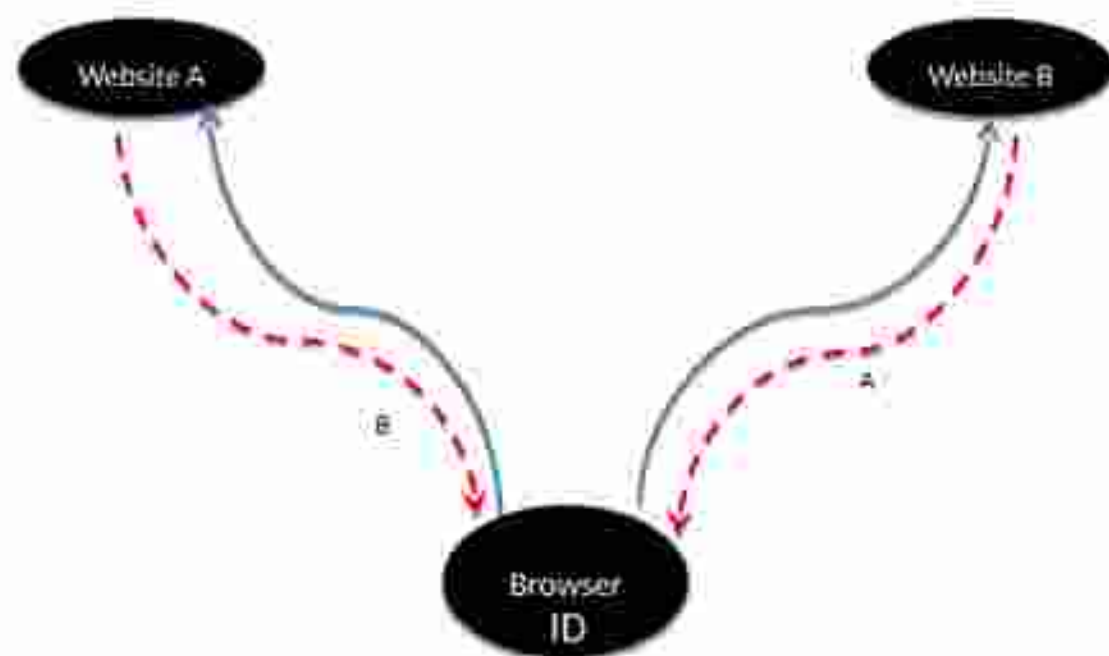


+



Attribute	FF	IE	FF	IEAS	FFPU
Plugin Enumeration	✓	✓	✓		✓
Flash Detection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
User-Agent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HTTP Header Accept					
HTTP Header Accept-Charset		✓			
HTTP Header Accept-Encoding				✓	✓
HTTP Header Accept-Language		✓		✓	✓
Screen Resolution	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Timings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Browser Language	✓				✓
OS & Kernel Version	✓	✓		✓	✓
DOM Storage				✓	✓
IE userData					
Java Enabled					✓
IE8 User Choice				✓	✓
Cookies Enabled					✓
JS detect: Flash Enabled					✓
ActiveX + CLSIDs					✓
Date & Time					
HTTP				✓	✓
System / User Language					✓
Open Web					✓
Canvas Fingerprinting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ImageType Feature Name	✓	✓	✓		✓
HTTP Page & Location					
IndexedDB					✓
Math Constants					
Windows Registry					
TCP/IP Parameters		✓			
Google Chrome Detection					
Flash Manufacturer					
IE8: Security Folly					
AJAX Implementation					
IE8: Product key					
Device Enumeration					
Device Identification					
IP address		✓			
HTML Body Behavior					
Battery		✓			✓
WebGL Rendering Context		✓		✓	✓

## Validation setup



# Validation

- Verify setup
  - Generate fingerprint with fingerprintJS
  - Test without and with FP-Block
- Run validation
  - BC, IO, TM, fingerprintJS, Panopticklick, AddThis
- Additional test: BlueCava ID request

# Monitoring evolution of fingerprinters

Updates since September 2014:

- Panopticlick –
- **BlueCava** \* (2 updates)
- **AddThis** \* (many updates)
- **Iovation** 35.7kb, 36.8kb, 35.7kb, 36.8kb, 36.7kb, 37.1kb
- FingerPrintJS added screen orientation, \*
- **ThreatMetrix** major changes since 27 oct '14

# Conclusions

- Ubiquitous tracking is a reality
- Countermeasures fall short
- Local tracking is acceptable  
→ overcomes defensive paradox

## Results:

- Propose separation of web identities
- Determine fingerprint vectors
- Proof-of-concept implementation
- Validation against commercial fingerprinters

**Thank you for your attention!**



# References (1)

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- [CCS13] G. Acar, M. Juarez, N. Nikiforakis, C. Diaz, S. Gürses, F. Piessens, B. Preneel. **FPDetective: dusting the web for fingerprinters.** In *Proc. 20<sup>th</sup> Conference on Computer & Communications Security (CCS'13)*, pp. 1129-1140. ACM.
- [W2SP11] K. Mowery, D. Bogenreif, S. Yilek, H. Shacham. **Fingerprinting information in JavaScript implementations.** In *Proc. 2<sup>nd</sup> Web 2.0 Security and Privacy (W2SP'11)*.
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## References (2)

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- [S&P13] N. Nikiforakis, A. Kapravelos, W. Joosen, C. Kruegel, F. Piessens, G. Vigna. **Cookieless monster: Exploring the ecosystem of web-based device fingerprinting**. In *Proc. 34<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP'13)*, pp. 541-555. IEEE, 2013.
- [NordSec11] K. Boda, Á.M. Földes, G.Gy. Gulyás, S. Imre. **User Tracking on the Web via Cross-Browser Fingerprinting**. In *Proc. 16<sup>th</sup> Nordic Conference in Secure IT Systems (Nordsec 2011)*, Springer-Verlag, LNCS 7161, pp. 31-46, 2012.
- [NSDI12] F. Roesner, T. Kohno, D. Wetherall. **Detecting and defending against third-party tracking on the web**. In *Proc. 9th USENIX Symposium on Networked Systems Design and Implementation (NSDI'12)*, pages 155–168. USENIX, 2012.