Privacy index metrics in digital communication

Showing Caliopen's users how public their private messages are.

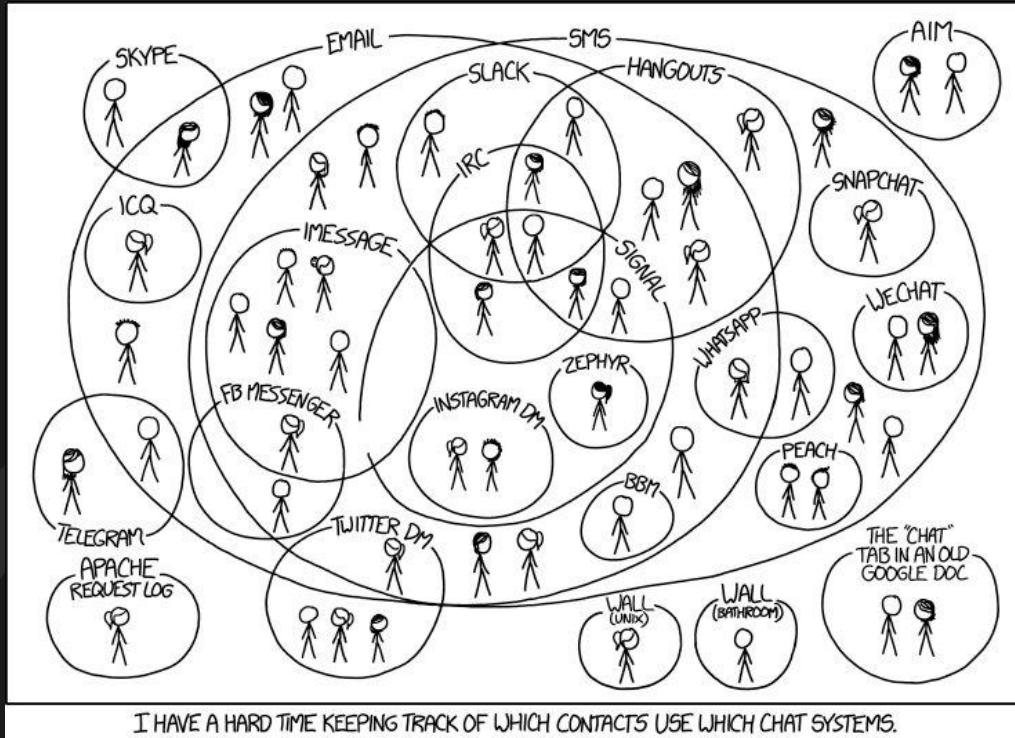Laurent Chemla, project owner   Stanislas SABATIER, backend developer

caliopen

RMLL 2017 Libre Et Change
SAINT-ETIENNE Rencontres Mondiales du Logiciel Libre 01-07 Juillet

Caliopen handles all of your private exchanges

I HAVE A HARD TIME KEEPING TRACK OF WHICH CONTACTS USE WHICH CHAT SYSTEMS.

Private communication is no longer only email

Caliopen is not about protocols: it's about content

*Protocols matter only for privacy measurement*

Privacy indices are nothing new

Wax sealed letters and glued envelopes are well known public concepts

Wax seals were a guarantee for both authenticity and confidentiality

People don't write the same kind of content in sealed envelope as they do on a postcard

Caliopen tries to recreate in digital communications what was already known long ago

be good.
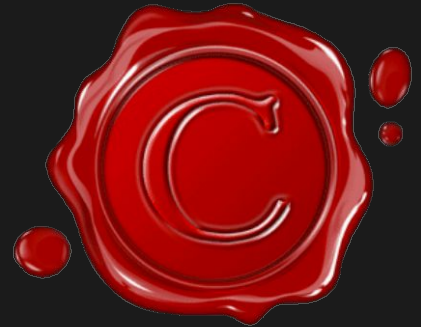
The Internet was not designed for privacy

We all know it was for cats and porn

"LAN Login Security. This asks for a Telnet option or mechanism for encrypting the login password. Several in the audience panned this on the grounds that **Ethernets can't be secure.**"

IETF proceedings, July 1987

None of the first Internet tools were privacy oriented

Today, Email may be secured, but we use many other tools for private messaging

As long as some of the tools we use are unencrypted, at least our social graph is at risk

Make privacy comprehensible again

Clearly showing how naked the king is

Each element of Users Interfaces should show how private the communication is and how to improve it

The user account itself should be graded globally, to stimulate upturn

Showing someone their weaknesses drives them to act better (or at least accordingly)

What's in a mailbox ?

Computing a message privacy level

Based on its transport protocol, we can compute part of a message privacy index (PI), but it's the easy part

A message privacy also depends on its storage, its encryption, its recipients and their own privacy, among other factors

Privacy is not only a technical issue, but also a social, behavioral and contextual one

caliopen   *be good.*

The device case

The security of the device used to access a message is a main component of the message privacy index metrics

Connection type is a contextual concern and will impact the device privacy index

One should never read a message with high privacy index on a low privacy indexed device
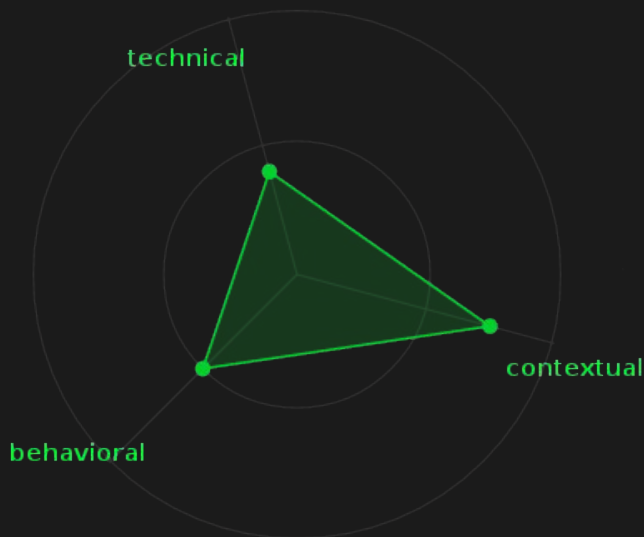
Displaying the flag

Monkey see, monkey do

By displaying messages, devices, contacts and global privacy indices, Caliopen restores confidence that was long forgotten

By seeing his privacy level, the user can act accordingly, improve his security, and chose what to say and how to say it

And why not think about making Caliopen Privacy Index metrics a standard in a new Internet era where privacy is back ?