

Why You Should Never Sign-In Or Let Your PC, Phone Or TV Know Who You Are

- The algorithms that make lethal decisions about your life
- Thousands of companies are spying on you to try to change your politics, votes, culture and education
- When you log into ANY device, you give it permission to manipulate your life
- [theguardian.com/techno...](https://www.theguardian.com/technology)

By James Clayton and Zoe Kleinman Technology reporters, BBC News

Thousands of students in England are angry about [the controversial use of an algorithm](#) to determine this year's GCSE and A-level results.

They were unable to sit exams because of lockdown, so the algorithm used data about schools' results in previous years to determine grades.

It meant about 40% of this year's A-level results came out lower than predicted, which has a huge impact on what students are able to do next. GCSE results are due out on Thursday.

There are many examples of algorithms making big decisions about our lives, without us necessarily knowing how or when

they do it.

Here's a look at some of them.

Social media

In many ways, social-media platforms are simply giant algorithms.

Image copyright Getty Images

At their heart, they work out what you're interested in and then give you more of it - using as many data points as they can get their hands on.

Every "like", watch, click is stored. Most apps also glean more data from your web-browsing habits or geographical data. The idea is to predict the content you want and keep you scrolling - and it works.

And those same algorithms that know you enjoy a cute-cat video are also deployed to sell you stuff.

All the data social-media companies collect about you can also tailor ads to you in an incredibly accurate way.

But these algorithms can go seriously wrong. They have been proved to push people towards hateful and extremist content. Extreme content simply does better than nuance on social media. And algorithms know that.

Facebook's own civil-rights audit called for the company to do everything in its power to prevent its algorithm from "driving people toward self-reinforcing echo chambers of extremism".

And last month we reported on [how algorithms on online retail sites - designed to work out what you want to buy - were](#)

pushing racist and hateful products.

Insurance

Image copyright Getty Images

Whether it's house, car, health or any other form of insurance, your insurer has to somehow assess the chances of something actually going wrong.

In many ways, the insurance industry pioneered using data about the past to determine future outcomes - that's the basis of the whole sector, according to Timandra Harkness, author of *Big Data: Does Size Matter*.

Getting a computer to do it was always going to be the logical next step.

"Algorithms can affect your life very much and yet you as an individual don't necessarily get a lot of input," she says.

"We all know if you move to a different postcode, your insurance goes up or down.

"That's not because of you, it's because other people have been more or less likely to have been victims of crime, or had accidents or whatever."

Innovations such as the "black box" that can be installed in a car to monitor how an individual drives have helped to lower the cost of car insurance for careful drivers who find themselves in a high-risk group.

Might we see more personally tailored insurance quotes as algorithms learn more about our own circumstances?

"Ultimately the point of insurance is to share the risk - so everybody puts [money] in and the people who need it take it out," Timandra says.

"We live in an unfair world, so any model you make is going to be unfair in one way or another."

Healthcare

Artificial Intelligence is making great leaps in being able to diagnose various conditions and even suggest treatment paths.

Image copyright Getty Images

A study published in January 2020 suggested an algorithm [performed better than human doctors when it came to identifying breast cancer from mammograms.](#)

And other successes include:

- a tool that can [predict ovarian-cancer survival rates](#) and help determine treatment choices
- artificial intelligence from University College, London, that identified [patients most likely to miss appointments and therefore need reminders](#)

However, all this requires a vast amount of patient data to train the programmes - and that is, frankly, a rather large can of worms.

In 2017, the UK Information Commission ruled the Royal Free NHS Foundation Trust [had not done enough to safeguard patient data](#) when it had shared 1.6 million patient records with Google's AI division, DeepMind.

"There's a fine line between finding exciting new ways to improve care and moving ahead of patients' expectations," said DeepMind's co-founder Mustafa Suleyman at the time.

Policing

Image copyright Getty Images

Big data and machine learning have the potential to revolutionise policing.

In theory, algorithms have the power to deliver on the sci-fi promise of "predictive policing" - using data, such as where crime has happened in the past, when and by whom, to predict where to allocate police resources.

But that method can create algorithmic bias - and even algorithmic racism.

"It's the same situation as you have with the exam grades," says Areeq Chowdhury, from technology think tank WebRoots Democracy.

"Why are you judging one individual based on what other people have historically done? The same communities are always over-represented".

Earlier this year, the defence and security think tank RUSI [published a report into algorithmic policing](#).

It raised concerns about the lack of national guidelines or impact assessments. It also called for more research into how these algorithms might exacerbate racism.

Facial recognition too - used by police forces in the UK including the Met - has also been criticised.

For example, there have been concerns about whether the data going into facial-recognition technology can make the algorithm racist.

The charge is facial-recognition cameras are more accurate at identifying white faces - because they have more data on white faces.

"The question is, are you testing it on a diverse enough demographic of people?" Areeq says.

"What you don't want is a situation where some groups are being misidentified as a criminal because of the algorithm."

PERSONAL INTERNET SECURITY – PART 1

Validation Note: *University, Federal, Forensic Researcher and Journalism sources provided in the links below, prove every assertion in this report many times over. A simple web-search by any college-educated person, on the top 5 search engines, can turn up hundreds of additional credible, verifying sources. Expert jury trial and Congressional hearing witnesses have proven these facts over and over.*

You probably can't imagine the [second-by-second dangers](#) and harms that modern electronics, like your phone and tablet, are causing to your life, your income, your privacy, your beliefs, your human rights, your bank account records, your political data, your job, your brand name, your medical data, your dating life, your reputation and other [crucial parts of your life](#).

Any use of a dating site, Google or Facebook product, social media site, movie site, or anything that you log in to, puts you at

substantial risk. Remember: "[*if it has a plug, it has a bug*](#)". Every electronic device can be easily made to spy on you in ways you cannot possibly imagine.

The Take-Aways:

- Stalkers can find you by zooming in on your pupil reflection images in your online photos ([*https://www.kurzweilai.net/reflected-hidden-faces-in-photographs-revealed-in-pupil*](https://www.kurzweilai.net/reflected-hidden-faces-in-photographs-revealed-in-pupil))
- If you send email overseas or make phone calls overseas all of your communications, and those with anybody else, are NSA monitored ([*https://www.privacytools.io/*](https://www.privacytools.io/))
- Bad guys take a single online photo of you and put it in software that instantly builds a dossier on you by finding where every other photo of you is that has ever been posted online ([*https://www.aclu.org/blog/privacy-technology/surveillance-technologies/apples-use-face-recognition-new-iphone*](https://www.aclu.org/blog/privacy-technology/surveillance-technologies/apples-use-face-recognition-new-iphone))
- Face-tracking software for stalking you on Match.com and OK Cupid is more effective than even FBI software for hunting bank robbers ([*https://www.cnet.com/news/clearview-app-lets-strangers-find-your-name-info-with-snap-of-a-photo-report-says/*](https://www.cnet.com/news/clearview-app-lets-strangers-find-your-name-info-with-snap-of-a-photo-report-says/))
- Any glass, metal or ceramic object near you can be reflecting your voice or image to digital beam scanners that can relay your voice or image anywhere in the world
- All your data from any hotel you stay at will eventually be hacked and leaked ([*Info of 10 MILLION MGM guests including Justin Bieber and TWITTER CEO leaked online!*](#))
- Your voting data will be used to spy on you and harm you ([*Every voter in Israel just had their data leaked in 'grave' security breach...*](#))
- Lip-reading software can determine what you are saying from

over a mile away (

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/20/russian-police-use-spy-camera-film-opposition-activist-bedroom/>)

- Every Apple iPhone and other smart-phone has over 1000 ways to bug you, listen to you, track you and record your daily activities even when you think you have turned off the device.

Never leave your battery in your phone. ([***LEAKED DOCS: Secretive Market For Your Web History...***](#))([***Every Search. Every Click. On Every Site...***](#))

- Elon Musk's SpaceX StarLink satellites are spy satellites that send your data to Google and other tech companies (

<https://www.chieftain.com/news/20200118/first-drones-now-unexplained-lights-reported-in-horsetooth>)

- Google and Facebook have all of your medical records and they are part of a political operation (

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/hospitals-give-tech-giants-access-to-detailed-medical-records-11579516200>)

- Every dating site, comments section and social media site sends your private data, covertly, to government, political campaigns and corporate analysis groups and can also be hacked by anyone.

- Any hacker can hack ANY network with even a single Intel, Cisco, Juniper Networks or AMD motherboard on it and nobody can stop them unless they destroy the motherboard because the back-doors are built into the hardware. Many of the companies you think are providing security are secretly owned by the Chinese government spy agencies or the CIA (

<https://boingboing.net/2020/02/11/cia-secretly-owned-worlds-to.html>)

- Warehouses in Nigeria, Russia, Ukraine, Sao Paulo, China and hundreds of other regions, house tens of thousands of hackers who work around the clock to try to hack you and manipulate

your data.

- Every red light camera, Walmart/Target/Big Box camera and every restaurant camera goes off to networks that send your activities to credit companies, collection companies, political parties and government agencies (['Homeland Security' using location data from apps to track millions of people...](#)

- Match.com, OKCupid and Plenty of Fish are also DNC voter analysis services that read your texts and keep your profiles forever

- If you don't put fake ages, addresses, phone numbers and disposable email addresses on ANY form you fill out electronically, it will haunt you forever ([<https://www.the-sun.com/news/284784/pornstar-data-breach-massive-leak-bank-details/>](#))

- Every train, plane and cruise line records you constantly and checks the covert pictures they take of you against global databases. Corporations grab your collateral private data that those Princess Cruises and United Airlines companies take and use them to build files on you (

[<https://www.silive.com/news/2020/01/report-new-app-can-id-strangers-with-a-single-photo.html>](#))

- The people who say "nobody would be interested in me" are the most at risk because their naiveté puts them at the top-of-the-list for targeting and harvesting (

[<https://www.cnet.com/news/clearview-app-lets-strangers-find-your-name-info-with-snap-of-a-photo-report-says/>](#))

- Silicon Valley tech companies don't care about your rights, they care about enough cash for their executives to buy hookers and private islands with. Your worst enemy is the social media CEO. They have a hundred thousand programmers trying to figure out more and more extreme ways to use your data every day and nobody to stop them

- The government can see everywhere you went to in the last year
(<https://www.protocol.com/government-buying-location-data>)

There have been over 15,000 different types of hacks used against over 3 billion "average" consumers. EVERY one of them thought they were safe and that nobody would hack them because "nobody cared about them". History has proven every single one of them to have been totally wrong!

If you are smart, and you read the news, you will know that you should ditch all of your electronic devices and "data-poison" any information about you that touches a network by only putting fake info in all conceivable forms and entries on the internet. You, though, may be smart but lazy, like many, and not willing to step outside of the bubble of complacency that corporate advertising has surrounded you with.

Did you know that almost every dating and erotic site sends your most private life experiences and chat messages to Google's and Facebook's investors?

<https://www.businessinsider.com/facebook-google-quietly-tracking-porn-you-watch-2019-7>

Do you really want all of those Silicon Valley oligarchs that have been charged with sexual abuse and sex trafficking to know that much about you?

Never, Ever, put your real information on Youtube, Netflix, Linkedin, Google, Twitter, Comcast, Amazon and any similar online service because it absolutely, positively will come back and harm you!

Always remember: Anybody that does not like you can open, read and take any photo, data, email or text on EVERY phone, computer, network or electronic device you have ever used no matter how "safe" you think your personal or work system is! They can do this in less than a minute. Also: Hundreds of thousands of hackers scan every device, around the clock, even if they never heard of you, and will like your stuff just for the fun of causing trouble. Never use an electronic device unless you encrypt, hide and code your material! One of the most important safety measures you can take is to review the security info at: <https://www.privacytools.io/>

Those people who think: "I have nothing to worry about..I am not important" ARE the people who get hacked the most. Don't let naivete be your downfall. (<https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2019/07/when-will-we-get-full-truth-about-how-and-why-government-using-facial-recognition>)

All of your info on Target, Safeway, Walgreens has been hacked and read by many outsiders. NASA, The CIA, The NSA, The White House and all of the federal background check files have been hacked. The Department of Energy has been hacked hundreds of times. All of the dating sites have been hacked and their staff read all of your messages. Quest labs blood test data and sexual information reports have been hacked and published to the world. There is no database that can't be easily hacked. Every computer system with Intel, AMD, Juniper Networks, Cisco and

other hardware in it can be hacked in seconds with the hardware back-doors soldered onto their electronic boards. All of the credit reporting bureaus have been hacked. Wells Fargo bank is constantly hacked. YOU ARE NOT SAFE if you put information on a network. NO NETWORK is safe! No Silicon Valley company can, or will, protect your data; mostly because they make money FROM your data!

Every single modern cell phone and digital device can be EASILY taken over by any hacker and made to spy on you, your family, your business and your friends in thousands of different ways. Taking over the microphone is only a small part of the ways a phone can be made to spy on you. Your phone can record your location, your voice vibrations, your mood, your thoughts, your sexual activity, your finances, your photos, your contacts (who it then goes off and infects) and a huge number of other things that you don't want recorded.

[*Privacy watchdog under pressure to recommend facial recognition ban...*](#)

[*Alarming Rise of Smart Camera Networks...*](#)

[*AMAZON's Ring Doorbell Secretly Shares Private User Data With FACEBOOK...*](#)

The worst abusers of your privacy, personal information, politics and psychological information intentions are: Google, Facebook, LinkedIn, Amazon, Netflix, Comcast, AT&T, Xfinity, Match.com & the other IAC dating sites, Instagram, Uber, Wells Fargo, Twitter, Paypal, Hulu, Walmart, Target, YouTube, PG&E, The DNC, Media Matters, Axciom, and their subsidiaries. Never, ever, put accurate

information about yourself on their online form. Never, ever, sign in to their sites using your real name, phone, address or anything that could be tracked back to you.

If you don't believe that every government hacks citizens in order to destroy the reputation of anyone who makes a public statement against the current party in power then read the public document at:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP89-01258R000100010002-4.pdf>

That document shows you, according to the U.S. Congress, how far things can go.

A program called ACXIX hunts down all of your records from your corner pharmacy, your taxi rides, your concert tickets, your grocery purchases, what time you use energy at your home, your doctor records...and all kinds of little bits of info about you and puts that a file about you. That file about you keeps growing for the rest of your life. That file sucks in other files from other data harvesting sites like Facebook and Google: FOREVER. The information in that file is used to try to control your politics and ideology.

In recent science studies cell phones were proven to exceed radiation safety limits by as high as 11 times the 2-decade old allowable U.S. radiation limits when phones touch the body. This is one of thousands of great reasons to always remove the battery from your cell phone when you are not talking on it. A phone without a battery in it can't spy on you and send your data to your enemies.

If you are reading this notice, the following data applies to

you:

1. EVERY network is known to contain Intel, Cisco, Juniper Networks, AMD, Qualcomm and other hardware which has been proven to contain back-door hard-coded access to outside parties. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

2. Chinese, Russian FSB, Iranian and other state-sponsored hacking services as well as 14 year old domestic boys are able to easily enter your networks, emails and digital files because of this. They can enter your network at any time, with less than 4 mouse clicks, using software available to anyone. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

3. Your financial office is aware of these facts and has chosen not to replace all of the at-risk equipment, nor sue the manufacturers who sold your organization this at risk equipment. They believe that the hassle and cost of replacement and litigation is more effort than the finance department is willing to undertake. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

4. In addition to the existing tools that were on the internet, in recent years, foreign hackers have released all of the key hacking

software that the CIA, DIA and NSA built to hack into any device. These software tools have already been used hundreds of times. Now the entire world has access to these tools which are freely and openly posted across the web. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

5. The computers, servers, routers, cell phones, IP cameras, IP microphones, Smart Meters, Tesla's, "Smart Devices:", etc. and other devices openly broadcast their IP data and availability on the internet. In other words, many of your device broadcast a "HERE I AM" signal that can be pinged, scanned, spidered, swept or, otherwise, seen, like a signal-in-the-dark from anywhere on Earth and from satellites overhead. Your devices announce that they are available to be hacked, to hackers. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

6. It is bad policy for your organization, or any organization, to think they are immune or have IT departments that can stop these hacks. NASA, The CIA, The White House, EQUIFAX, The Department of Energy, Target, Walmart, American Express, etc. have been hacked hundreds of times. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

7. The thinking: “Well, nobody would want to hack us”, or “We are not important enough to get hacked” is the most erroneous and negligent thinking one could have in the world today. Chinese, Russian and Iranian spy agencies have a global “Facebook for blackmail” and have been sucking up the data of every entity on Earth for over a decade. If the network was open, they have the data and are always looking for more. The same applies to Google and Facebook who have based their entire business around domestic spying and data re-sale. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

8. You are a “Stepping Stone” doorway to other networks and data for targeted individuals and other entities. Your networks provide routes into other people’s networks. The largest political industry today is called “Doxing” and “Character Assassination”. Billions of dollars are expended by companies such as IN-Q-Tel - (DNC); Gawker Media - (DNC); Jalopnik - (DNC); Gizmodo Media - (DNC); K2 Intelligence - (DNC); WikiStrat - (DNC); Podesta Group - (DNC); Fusion GPS - (DNC/GOP); Google - (DNC); YouTube - (DNC); Alphabet - (DNC); Facebook - (DNC); Twitter - (DNC); Think Progress - (DNC); Media Matters - (DNC); Black Cube - (DNC); Mossad - (DNC); Correct The Record - (DNC); Sand Line - (DNC/GOP); Blackwater - (DNC/GOP); Stratfor - (DNC/GOP); ShareBlue - (DNC); Wikileaks (DNC/GOP); Cambridge Analytica - (DNC/GOP); Sid Blumenthal- (DNC); David Brock - (DNC); PR Firm Sunshine Sachs (DNC); Covington and Burling - (DNC), BuzzFeed - (DNC) Perkins Coie - (DNC); Wilson Sonsini - (DNC) and hundreds of others to harm others that they perceive as political, personal or competitive threats. Do not under-estimate your unintended

role in helping to harm others. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

9. NEVER believe that you are too small to be noticed by hackers. Parties who believe that are the hackers favorite targets. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

10. NEVER believe that because the word "DELL" or "IBM" or "CISCO" is imprinted on the plastic cover of some equipment that you are safe. Big brands are targeted by every spy agency on Earth and are the MOST compromised types of equipment. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

11. YOU may not personally care about getting exposed but the person, or agency, you allow to get exposed will be affected for the rest of their lives and they will care very much and could sue you for destroying them via negligence. Be considerate of others in your "internet behavior". Do not put anything that could hurt another on any network, ever. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

12. Never post your real photograph online, or on a dating site social media or on any network. There are thousands of groups who scan every photo on the web and cross check those photos in their massive databases to reveal your personal information via every other location your photo is posted. These "image harvesters" can find out where you, who your friends and enemies are and where your kids are in minutes using comparative image data that they have automated and operating around the clock. This is a proven, inarguable fact based on court records, FISA data, IT evidence, national news broadcasts, Congressional presented evidence and inventory records, ie: Krebs On Security, FireEye, ICIJ, Wikileaks Vault 9, EU, Global IT services, FBI.

13. If you think using web security measures like this makes you "paranoid", then think again. Cautious and intelligent people use these security measures because these dangers are proven in the news headlines daily. Uninformed, naive and low IQ people are the types of people who do not use good web hygiene and who suffer because they are not cautious and are not willing to consider the consequences of their failure to read the news and stay informed.

'Gotham' software written by Palantir shows how government agencies, or anybody, can use very little information to obtain quick access to anyone's personal minutiae.

VICE NEWS *Motherboard* via public records request has [revealed](#) shocking details of capabilities of California law enforcement involved in Fusion Centers, once deemed to be a conspiracy theory like the National Security Agency (NSA) which was

founded in 1952, and its existence hidden until the mid-1960s. Even more secretive is the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), which was founded in 1960 but remained completely secret for 30 years.

Some of the documents instructing California law enforcement (Northern California Regional Intelligence Center) "Fusion Center" are now online, and they show just how much information the government can quickly access with little or no knowledge of a person of interest.

"The guide doesn't just show how Gotham works. It also shows how police are instructed to use the software," writes [Caroline Haskins](#).

"This guide seems to be specifically made by Palantir for the California law enforcement because it includes examples specific to California."

According to DHS, "Fusion centers operate as state and major urban area focal points for the receipt, analysis, gathering, and sharing of threat-related information between federal; state, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT); and private sector partners" like Palantir. Further, Fusion Centers are locally owned and operated, arms of the "[intelligence community](#)," i.e. the 17 intelligence agencies coordinated by the [National Counterterrorism Center \(NCTC\)](#). However, sometimes the buildings are staffed by trained

NSA personnel like what [happened](#) in Mexico City, according to a 2010 [Defense Department \(DOD\) memorandum](#).

Palantir is a private intelligence data management company mapping relationships between individuals and organizations alike founded by Peter Thiel and CEO Alex Karp and accused rapist Joe Lonsdale. You may remember Palantir from journalist Barrett Brown, Anonymous' hack of HBGary, or [accusations](#) that the company provided the technology that enables NSA's mass surveillance PRISM. Founded with early investment from the CIA and heavily used by the military, Palantir is a subcontracting company in its own right. The company has even been featured in the Senate's grilling of Facebook, when Washington State Senator Maria Cantwell [asked](#) CEO Mark Zuckerberg, "Do you know who Palantir is?" due to Peter Thiel sitting on Facebook's board.

In 2011, Anonymous' breach [exposed](#) HBGary's plan, conceived along with data intelligence firm Palantir, and Berico Technologies, to retaliate against WikiLeaks with cyber attacks and threaten the journalism institutions supporters. Following the hack and exposure of the joint plot, Palantir [attempted](#) to distance itself from HBGary, which it blamed for the plot.

Bank of America/Palintir/HBGary combined WikiLeaks attack plan. You can find more here: <https://t.co/85yECxFmZu>
[pic.twitter.com/huNtfjp8g!](https://t.co/85yECxFmZu)

— WikiLeaks (@wikileaks) [November 29, 2016](#)

This was in part because Palantir had in 2011 [scored \\$250 million in deals](#) ; its customers included the CIA, FBI, US Special Operations Command, Army, Marines, Air Force, LAPD and even

the NYPD. So the shady contractor had its reputation to lose at the time being involved in arguably criminal activity against WikiLeaks and its supporters.

Palantir describes itself as follows based on its [website](#):

Palantir Law Enforcement supports existing case management systems, evidence management systems, arrest records, warrant data, subpoenaed data, RMS or other crime-reporting data, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) data, federal repositories, gang intelligence, suspicious activity reports, Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) data, and unstructured data such as document repositories and emails.

Palantir's software, *Bloomberg* [reports](#),

combs through disparate data sources—financial documents, airline reservations, cellphone records, social media postings—and searches for connections that human analysts might miss. It then presents the linkages in colorful, easy-to-interpret graphics that look like spider webs.

Motherboard shows how Fusion Center police can now utilize similar technology to track citizens beyond social media and online web accounts with people record searches, vehicle record searches, a Histogram tool, a Map tool, and an Object Explorer tool. (For more information on each and the applicable uses see the *Vice News* article [here](#).)

Police can then click on an individual in the chart within Gotham and see every personal detail about a target and those around them, from email addresses to bank account information, license

information, social media profiles, etc., according to the documents.

Palantir's software in many ways is similar to the Prosecutor's Management Information System (PROMIS) stolen software Main Core and may be the next evolution in that code, which allegedly [predated](#) PRISM. In 2008, Salon.com [published](#) details about a top-secret government database that might have been at the heart of the Bush administration's domestic spying operations. The database known as "Main Core" reportedly collected and stored vast amounts of personal and financial data about millions of Americans in event of an emergency like Martial Law.

The only difference is, again, this technology is being allowed to be deployed by Fusion Center designated police and not just the National Security Agency. Therefore, this expands the power that Fusion Center police — consisting of local law enforcement, other local government employees, as well as Department of Homeland Security personnel — have over individual American citizens.

This is a huge leap from allowing NSA agents to access PRISM database search software or being paid by the government to [mine social media for "terrorists."](#)

Fusion Centers have become a long-standing target of civil liberties groups like the [EFF](#), [ACLU](#), and others because they collect and aggregate data from so many different public and private sources.

On a deeper level, when you combine the capabilities of Palantir's Gotham software, the [abuse](#) of the Department of

Motor Vehicles (DMV) database for Federal Bureau of Investigations/Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and facial recognition technology, you have the formula for a nightmarish surveillance state. Ironically, or perhaps not, that nightmare is the reality of undocumented immigrants as Palantir is one of several companies helping sift through data for the raids planned by ICE, [according](#) to journalist Barrett Brown.

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED:

According to the world's top internet security experts: "...Welcome to the new digital world. Nobody can ever type anything on the internet without getting scanned, hacked, privacy abused, data harvested for some political campaign, spied on by the NSA and Russian hackers and sold to marketing companies. You can't find a corporate or email server that has not already been hacked. For \$5000.00, on the Dark Web, you can now buy a copy of any person's entire dating files from match.com, their social security records and their federal background checks. These holes can never be patched because they exist right in the hardware of 90% of the internet hardware on Earth. Any hacker only needs to find one hole in a network in order to steal everything in your medical records, your Macy's account, your credit records and your dating data. Be aware, these days, Mr. & Ms. Consumer. Facebook, Google, Twitter and Amazon have turned out to be not-what-they-seem. They manipulate you and your personal information in quite illicit manners and for corrupt purposes. Avoid communicating with anybody on the internet because you will never know who you are really talking to. Only communication with people live and in-person..."

SPREAD THE WORD. TELL YOUR FRIENDS. COPY AND PASTE THIS TO YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA. SEE MORE PROOF IN THESE ARTICLES:

<https://www.i-programmer.info/news/149-security/12556-google-says-spectre-and-meltdown-are-too-difficult-to-fix.html>

<https://sputniknews.com/us/201902231072681117-encryption-keys-dark-overlord-911-hack/>

<https://www.businessinsider.com/nest-microphone-was-never-supposed-to-be-a-secret-2019-2>

<https://thehill.com/policy/technology/430779-google-says-hidden-microphone-was-never-intended-to-be-a-secret>

<https://www.blacklistednews.com/article/71200/smartphone-apps-sending-intensely-personal-information-to-facebook--whether-or-not-you-have-an.html>

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/microsoft-edge-secret-whitelist-allows-facebook-to-autorun-flash/>

<https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=19210727>

<https://www.davidicke.com/article/469484/israel-hardware-backdoored-everything>

<https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/2186606/chinas-social-credit-system-shows-its->

[teeth-banning-millions](#)

<https://youtu.be/lwoyesA-vIM>

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/critical-vulnerabilities-uncovered-in-popular-password-managers/>

<https://files.catbox.moe/jopll0.pdf>

<https://files.catbox.moe/ugqngv.pdf>

<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/612974/once-hailed-as-unhackable-blockchains-are-now-getting-hacked/>

<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2019/02/att-t-mobile-sprint-reportedly-broke-us-law-by-selling-911-location-data/>

<https://theintercept.com/2019/02/08/jeff-bezos-protests-the-invasion-of-his-privacy-as-amazon-builds-a-sprawling-surveillance-state-for-everyone-else/>

<https://www.blacklistednews.com/article/71200/smartphone-apps-sending-intensely-personal-information-to-facebook--whether-or-not-you-have-an.html>

<https://www.stripes.com/news/us/feds-share-watch-list-with-1-400-private-groups-1.569308>

<https://voat.co/v/news/3053329>

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/all-intel-chips-open-to-new-spoiler-non-spectre-attack-dont-expect-a-quick-fix/>

<https://voat.co/v/technology/3075724>

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2019/02/26/malware_ibm_powers_hell/

<https://fossbytes.com/facebook-lets-anyone-view-your-profile-using-your-phone-number/>

<https://www.iottechrends.com/vulnerability-ring-doorbell-fixed/>

<https://voat.co/v/technology/3077896>

<https://www.mintpressnews.com/whistleblowers-say-nsa-still-spies-american-phones-hidden-program/256208/>

<https://www.wionews.com/photos/how-israel-spyware-firm-nso-operates-in-shadowy-cyber-world-218782#hit-in-mexico-218759>

<https://sg.news.yahoo.com/whatsapp-hack-latest-breach-personal-data-security-135037749.html>

<https://metro.co.uk/2019/05/14/whatsapp-security-attack-put-malicious-code-iphones-androids-9523698/>

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/tech/9069211/whatsapp-surveillance-cyber-attack-glitch/>

THE PROMIS BACKDOOR

Beyond embedded journalists, news blackouts, false flag events, blacklisted and disappeared Internet domains the plotline of America's "free press" there are now ISP-filtering programs subject to Homeland Security guidelines that sift through emails and toss some into a black hole. Insiders and the NSA-approved, however, can get around such protections of networks by means of the various hybrids of the PROM IS backdoor. The 1980s theA of the Prosecutor's Management Information System (PROMIS) software handed over the golden key that would grant most of the world to a handful of criminals. In fact, this one crime may have been the final deal with the devil that consigned the United States to its present shameful descent into moral turpitude. PROMIS began as a COBOL-based program designed to track multiple offenders through multiple databases like those of the DOJ, CIA, U.S. Attorney, IRS, etc. Its creator was a former NSA analyst named William Hamilton. About the time that the October Surprise Iranian hostage drama was stealing the election for former California governor Ronald Reagan and former CIA director George H.W. Bush in 1980, Hamilton was moving his Inslaw Inc. from non-profit to for-profit status.

His intention was to keep the upgraded version of PROM IS that Inslaw had paid for and earmark a public domain version funded by a Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) grant for the government. With 570,000 lines of code, PROMIS was able to integrate innumerable databases without any reprogramming and thus turn mere data into information.

With Reagan in the White House, his California cronies at the DOJ offered Inslaw a \$9.6 million contract to install public-domain PROMIS in prosecutors' offices, though it was really the enhanced PROM IS that the good-old-boy network had set its

sights on. In February 1983, the chief of Israeli antiterrorism intelligence was sent to Inslaw under an alias to see for himself the DEC VAX enhanced version. He recognized immediately that this software would revolutionize Israeli intelligence and crush the Palestine Intifada. Enhanced PROMIS could extrapolate nuclear submarine routes and destinations, track assets, trustees, and judges. Not only that, but the conspirators had a CIA genius named Michael Riconosciuto who could enhance the enhanced version one step further, once it was in their possession. To install public domain PROMIS in ninety-four U.S. Attorney offices as per contract, Inslaw had to utilize its enhanced PROMIS.

The DOJ made its move, demanding temporary possession of enhanced PROMIS as collateral to ensure that all installations were completed and that only Inslaw money had gone into the enhancements. Naïvely, Hamilton agreed. The rest is history: the DOJ delayed payments on the \$9.6 million and drove Inslaw into bankruptcy. With Edwin Meese III as Attorney General, the bankruptcy system was little more than a political patronage system, anyway. The enhanced PROMIS was then passed to the brilliant multivalent computer and chemical genius Riconosciuto, son of CIA Agent Marshall Riconosciuto.⁵ Recruited at sixteen, Michael had studied with Nobel Prize-winning physicist and co-inventor of the laser Arthur Schawlow. Michael was moved from Indio to Silver Springs to Miami as he worked to insert a chip that would broadcast the contents of whatever database was present to collection satellites and monitoring vans like the Google Street View van, using a digital spread spectrum to make

the signal look like computer noise. This Trojan horse would grant key-club access to the backdoor of any person or institution that purchased PROMIS software as long as the backdoor could be kept secret. Meanwhile, the drama between Hamilton and the conspirators at DOJ continued. A quiet offer to buy out Inslaw was proffered by the investment banking firm Allen & Co., British publisher (Daily Mirror) Robert Maxwell, the Arkansas corporation Systematics, and Arkansas lawyer (and Clinton family friend) Webb Hubbell.

Hamilton refused and filed a \$50 million lawsuit in bankruptcy court against the DOJ on June 9, 1986. Bankruptcy Judge George F. Bason, Jr. ruled that the DOJ had indeed stolen PROMIS through trickery, fraud, and deceit, and awarded Inslaw \$6.8 million. He was unable to bring perjury charges against government officials but recommended to the House Judiciary Committee that it conduct a full investigation of the DOJ. The DOJ's appeal failed, but the Washington, D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed everything on a technicality. Under then-President George H.W. Bush (1989 — 1993), Inslaw's petition to the Supreme Court in October 1991 was scorned. When the IRS lawyer requested that Inslaw be liquidated in such a way that the U.S. Trustee program (AG Meese's feeding trough between the DOJ and IRS) could name the trustee who would convert the assets, oversee the auction, and retain the appraisers, Judge Bason refused.

Under then-President William Jefferson Clinton (1993 — 2001), the Court of Federal Claims whitewashed the DOJ's destruction of Inslaw and the A of PROMIS on July 31, 1997. Judge Christine Miller sent a 186-page advisory opinion to Congress claiming that Inslaw's complaint had no merit a somber message to

software developers seeking to do business with Attorney Generals and their DOJ. For his integrity, Judge Bason lost his bench seat to the IRS lawyer. T

hroughout three administrations, the mainstream Mockingbird media obediently covered up the Inslaw affair, enhanced PROMIS being a master tool of inference extraction able to track and eavesdrop like nothing else. Once enhanced PROMIS was being sold domestically and abroad so as to steal data from individuals, government agencies, banks, and corporations everywhere, intelligence-connected Barry Kumnick~ turned PROMIS into an artificial intelligence (AI) tool called SMART (Special Management Artificial Reasoning Tool) that revolutionized surveillance. The DOJ promised Kumnick \$25 million, then forced him into bankruptcy as it had Hamilton. (Unlike Hamilton, Kumnick settled for a high security clearance and work at military contractors Systematics and Northrop.) Five Eyes / Echelon and the FBI's Carnivore / Data Collection System 1000 were promptly armed with SMART, as was closed circuit satellite highdefinition (HD) television. With SMART, Five Eyes / Echelon intercepts for UKUSA agencies became breathtaking.

The next modification to Hamilton's PROMIS was Brainstorm, a behavioral recognition software, followed by the facial recognition soAware Flexible Research System (FRS); then Semantic Web, which looks not just for link words and embedded code but for what it means that this particular person is following this particular thread. Then came quantum modification. The Department of Defense paid Simulex, Inc. to develop Sentient World Simulation (SWS), a synthetic mirror of the real world with automated continuous calibration with respect to current real-world information. The SEAS (Synthetic

Environment for Analysis and Simulations) soAware platform drives SWS to devour as many as five million nodes of breaking news census data, shiAing economic indicators, real world weather patterns, and social media data, then feeds it proprietary military intelligence and fictitious events to gauge their destabilizing impact. Research into how to maintain public cognitive dissonance and learned helplessness (psychologist Martin Seligman) help SEAS deduce human behavior.

There are legitimate reasons (<http://www.learnliberty.org/videos/edward-snowden-surveillance-is-about-power/>) to want to avoid being tracked and spied-on while you're online. But aside from that, doesn't it feel creepy knowing you're probably being watched every moment that you're online and that information about where you go and what you do could potentially be sold to anyone at any time--to advertisers, your health insurance company, a future employer, the government, even a snoop neighbor? Wouldn't you feel better not having to worry about that on top of everything else you have to worry about every day?

You can test to what extent your browser is transmitting unique information using these sites: panopticlick.com, Shieldsup, and ip-check.info.

<https://panopticlick.eff.org/>

<https://www.grc.com/shieldsup>

<https://cheapskatesguide.org/articles/ip-check.info?/lang=en>

These sites confirm that browsers transmit a lot of data that can be used for fingerprinting. From playing around with these sites, I have noticed that turning off javascript in my browser does help some. Also the TOR browser seems to transmit less data than most, but even it is not completely effective. The added benefit that you get from the TOR browser and especially the TAILS operating system is that they block your IP address from the websites you visit. You want to try several browsers to see which one transmits the least information. Perhaps you will be lucky enough to find a browser that transmits less information than the TOR browser.

The next thing to be aware of is that corporations have methods other than tracking to spy on you. There is a saying that if a corporation is offering you their product for free, you are their product. This means that corporations that offer you free services are selling the data they collect from you in order to be able to provide you with these services. So, chances are that companies that provide you with free email are reading your email. We know that, in addition to tracking you, Facebook reads your posts and knows who your friends are, and that is just the beginning of Facebook's spying methods. Free online surveys are just ways of collecting more data from you. Companies also monitor your credit card transactions and sell your online dating profiles. If you have a Samsung TV that is connected to the internet, it's probably recording what you watch and may even be listening to your private conversations in your home. In fact, anything that you have in your home that is connected to the internet may be spying on you, right down to your internet-connected light bulb. With a few exceptions, online search

engines monitor and log your searches. One of the exceptions is the ixquick.com search engine, which is headquartered in Europe. The steps to counter the nearly ubiquitous activities of free service providers would be to pay for services you receive online, read website privacy agreements, and not buy products that are known to be spying on you. However, the only way to be really secure from corporations using the internet to spy on you is to never connect to the internet or buy any internet-connected appliances. Welcome back to the 1980's.

Protecting yourself from government spying while you are on the internet is the hardest and requires the most knowledge. The biggest problem is that unless a whistle-blower like Edward Snowden tells us, we have no way of knowing how governments may potentially be spying on us. That means that we have no way of protecting ourselves 100% of the time from government spying. Some things whistle-blowers have revealed (<https://securiswissdata.com/9-ways-government-spying-on-internet-activity/>) are that the US government logs the meta data from all phone calls (who calls who and when), secretly forces internet service providers and providers of other services to allow it to "listen in on" and record all traffic going through their servers, reads nearly all email sent from everywhere in the world, and tracks the locations of all cell phones (even when they're turned off). And, although I am not aware of any specific whistle-blower revelations on this, there is every reason to believe that the US government (and perhaps others, including China's) has backdoors built into all computer hardware and operating system software for monitoring everything we do on our cell phones, tablets, laptops, desktop computers, and routers. (<https://www.eteknix.com/nsa-may-backdoors-built-intel-amd-processors/>) See also this. Because Lenovo computers

are manufactured in China, the US government has issued warnings to all US government agencies and subcontractors to strongly discourage them from using Lenovo computers. And the US government probably has backdoors (<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/a-brief-history-of-the-nsa-attempting-to-insert-backdoors-into-encrypted-data>) into all commercially-available encryption software, with the possible exception of Truecrypt version 7.1a. I hope you are understanding now the magnitude of the lengths that governments are going to (using your tax money) to spy on you. In truth, we are now approaching the level of government spying that George Orwell warned about in his book, 1984

So what can we practically do to protect ourselves from government spying? Seriously, there isn't much, if we want to use cell phones, credit cards, and the internet. About all we can do, if we absolutely need to have a private conversation, is to have a face-to-face meeting without any electronics within microphone range. That includes cell phones, Samsung TV's, video cameras, computers, or land-line telephones. And don't travel to the meeting place using long-distance commercial transportation.

Sending a letter through the US mail is the next best, although it is known that the outsides of all mail sent through the US mail are photographed, and the pictures are stored. So, don't put your return address on the envelope. (http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/new_york_times_post_office_photocopies_envelopes_of_all_mail_sent_in_the_us/) As far as surfing the internet is concerned, begin with all the precautions that I outlined above to protect yourself from corporate spying (except HTTPS and VPN's). Then, add the TAILS

operating system on a USB stick. As I said, TAILS will not prevent you from being identified and tracked via the fingerprinting method. And who can be sure whether the government has a backdoor in TAILS? As far as I know, the super-paranoid, hoody and sunglasses method I outlined above is the next step.

Experts warns of 'epidemic' of bugging devices used by stalkers - By James Hockaday

Stalkers are using cheap bugging devices hidden in everyday household items

More funding and legal powers are needed for police to stop a surge of stalkers using eavesdropping devices to spy on victims, experts have warned.

Firms paid to detect the bugs say they're finding more and more of the devices which are readily available on online marketplaces like Amazon and eBay.

Jack Lazzereschi, Technical Director of bug sweeping company Shapestones, says cases of stalking and victims being blackmailed with intimate footage shot in secret has doubled in the past two years.

He told Metro.co.uk: 'The police want to do something about it, they try to, but usually they don't have the legal power or the resources to investigate.'

'For us it's a problem. We try to protect the client, we want to assure that somebody has been protected.'

Advert for a hidden camera device planted inside a fire/smoke alarm sold on Amazon

People are paying as little as £15 for listening devices and spy cameras hidden inside desk lamps, wall sockets, phone charger cables, USB sticks and picture frames.

Users insert a sim card into a hidden slot and call a number to listen in on their unwitting targets.

People using hidden cameras can watch what's happening using an apps on their phones.

Jack says the devices are so effective, cheap and hard to trace to their users, law enforcement prefer using them over expensive old-school devices.

Although every case is different, in situations where homeowners plant devices in their own properties, Jack says there's usually a legal 'grey area' to avoid prosecution.

The devices themselves aren't illegal and they are usually marketed for legitimate purposes like protection, making it difficult for cops to investigate.

There is no suggestion online marketplaces like eBay and Amazon are breaking the law by selling them.

But in some instances, images of women in their underwear have been used in listings – implying more sinister uses for the

devices.

Even in cases when people are more clearly breaking the law, Jack says it's unlikely perpetrators will be brought to justice as overstretched police will prioritise resources to stop violent crime.

Jack's says around 60 per cent of his firm's non-corporate cases involve stalking or blackmail.

He says it's become an 'epidemic' over the past couple of years with the gadgets more readily available than ever before.

Jack Lazzereschi says he's seen stalking cases double in a few years

Victims are often filmed naked or having sex and threatened with the threat of footage being put online and in the worst cases children are also recorded.

Jack says UK law is woefully unprepared to deal with these devices compared to countries in the Asian-Pacific region.

In South Korea authorities have cracked down on a scourge of perverts planting cameras in public toilets.

James Williams, director of bug sweepers QCC Global says snooping devices used to be the preserve of people with deep pockets and technological know-how.

He said: 'It's gone from that to really being at a place where anybody can just buy a device from the internet.'

'Anything you can possibly think of you can buy with a bug built into it. I would say they're getting used increasingly across the board.'

Suky Bhaker, Acting CEO of the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, which runs the National Stalking Helpline, warned using these gadgets could be a prelude to physical violence.

She said: 'We know that stalking and coercive control are extremely dangerous and can cause huge harm to the victim, both in terms of their psychological wellbeing and the potential for escalation to physical violence or even murder.'

'The use of surveillance devices or spyware apps by stalkers, must be seen in the context of a pattern of obsessive, fixated behaviour which aims at controlling and monitoring the victim.'

She added: 'There should be clarity for police forces that the use of surveillance equipment by stalkers to monitor their victim's location or communications is a sign that serious and dangerous abuse may be present or imminent.'

'All cases of stalking or coercive control should be taken seriously and investigated when reported to police.'

The charity is calling for all police forces across the country to train staff in this area.

Earlier this month a policeman known only by his surname Mills was barred from the profession for life for repeatedly dismissing pleas for help from 19-year-old Shana Grice who was eventually murdered by her stalker ex-boyfriend Michel Lane.

A spokesman for eBay said: 'The listing of mini cameras on eBay is permitted for legitimate items like baby monitors or doorbell cameras.

'However, items intended to be used as spying devices are banned from eBay's UK platform in accordance with the law and our policy.

'We have filters in place to block prohibited items, and all the items flagged by Metro have now been removed.'

Face-tracking harvesters grab one picture of you and then use AI to find every other digital picture of you on Earth and open every social media post, resume, news clipping, dating account etc. and sell the full dossier on you to Axcion, the NSA, Political manipulators etc. and hack your bank accounts and credit cards. Never put an unsecured photo of yourself online.

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Who's Watching Your WebEx? Webex has many back-door spy paths built in

KrebsOnSecurity spent a good part of the past week working with **Cisco** to alert more than four dozen companies — many of them household names — about regular corporate [WebEx](#) conference meetings that lack passwords and are thus open to anyone who wants to listen in.

Department of Energy's WebEx meetings.

At issue are recurring video- and audio conference-based meetings that companies make available to their employees via WebEx, a set of online conferencing tools run by Cisco. These services allow customers to password-protect meetings, but it was trivial to find dozens of major companies that do not follow this basic best practice and allow virtually anyone to join daily meetings about apparently internal discussions and planning sessions.

Many of the meetings that can be found by a cursory search within an organization's "Events Center" listing on Webex.com seem to be intended for public viewing, such as product demonstrations and presentations for prospective customers and clients. However, from there it is often easy to discover a host of other, more proprietary WebEx meetings simply by clicking through the daily and weekly meetings listed in each organization's "Meeting Center" section on the Webex.com site.

Some of the more interesting, non-password-protected recurring meetings I found include those from **Charles Schwab**, **CSC**, **CBS**,

CVS, The U.S. Department of Energy, Fannie Mae, Jones Day, Orbitz, Paychex Services, and Union Pacific. Some entities even also allowed access to archived event recordings.

Cisco began reaching out to each of these companies about a week ago, and today released an [all-customer alert](#) (PDF) pointing customers to a [consolidated best-practices document](#) written for Cisco WebEx site administrators and users.

“In the first week of October, we were contacted by a leading security researcher,” Cisco wrote. “He showed us that some WebEx customer sites were publicly displaying meeting information online, including meeting Time, Topic, Host, and Duration. Some sites also included a ‘join meeting’ link.”

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Quest Diagnostics Says All 12 Million Patients May Have Had Financial, Medical, Personal Information Breached. It includes credit card numbers and bank account information, according to a filing... HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU NEED TO BE TOLD: "NEVER, EVER, GIVE TRUE INFORMATION TO ANY COMPANY THAT USES A NETWORK OR MAKES YOU SIGN-IN TO ANYTHING ONLINE!"

<https://khn.org/news/a-wake-up-call-on-data-collecting-smart-beds-and-sleep-apps/>

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<https://www.wsj.com/articles/hackers-may-soon-be-able-to-tell-what-youre-typing-just-by-hearing-you-type-11559700120>

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<https://www.emarketer.com/content/average-us-time-spent-with-mobile-in-2019-has-increased>

<https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/baltimore-city/bs-md-ci-ransomware-20190603-story.html>

<https://thehill.com/homenews/media/447532-news-industry-joins-calls-for-more-scrutiny-of-big-tech>

<https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/the-future-will-be-recorded-on-your-smart-speaker-1.1270598>

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2019/jun/9/robert-mueller-exploited-cell-phone-gps-track-trum/>

<https://www.theorganicprepper.com/the-unholy-alliance-between-dna-sites-and-facial-recognition/>

Google still keeps a list of everything you ever bought using Gmail, even if you delete all your emails, and provides that data to political parties, the NSA and marketing companies so they can manipulate you

[Todd Haselton@robotodd](mailto:ToddHaselton@robotodd)

Key Points

- Google Gmail keeps a log of everything you buy.
- Google says this is so you can ask Google Assistant about the status of an order or reorder something.
- It also says you can delete this log by deleting the email, but three weeks after we deleted all email, the list is still there.

 CNBC Tech: Sundar Pichai Google IO 2019

Google CEO Sundar Pichai

Google

Google and other tech companies have been under fire recently for a variety of issues, including failing to protect [user data](#), [failing to disclose](#) how data is collected and used and [failing to police the content](#) posted to their services.

Companies such as Google have embedded themselves in our lives with useful services including Gmail, Google Maps and Google Search, as well as smart products such as the Google Assistant which can answer our questions on a whim. The benefits of these tools come at the cost of our privacy, however, because while Google says that privacy should not be a "[luxury good](#)," it's still going to great lengths to collect as much detail as possible about its users and making it more difficult than necessary for users to track what's collected about them and delete it.

Here's the latest case in point.

In May, I wrote up something weird I spotted on [Google's](#) account management page. I noticed that Google uses Gmail to store a list of [everything you've purchased](#), if you used Gmail or your Gmail address in any part of the transaction.

If you have a confirmation for a prescription you picked up at a pharmacy that went into your Gmail account, Google logs it. If you have a receipt from Macy's, Google keeps it. If you bought

food for delivery and the receipt went to your Gmail, Google stores that, too.

You get the idea, and you can see your own purchase history by going to [Google's Purchases page](#).

Google says it does this so you can use Google Assistant to track packages or reorder things, even if that's not an option for some purchases that aren't mailed or wouldn't be reordered, like something you bought a store.

At the time of my original story, Google said users can delete everything by tapping into a purchase and removing the Gmail. It seemed to work if you did this for each purchase, one by one. This isn't easy — for years worth of purchases, this would take hours or even days of time.

So, since Google doesn't let you bulk-delete this purchases list, I decided to delete everything in my Gmail inbox. That meant removing every last message I've sent or received since I opened my Gmail account more than a decade ago.

Despite Google's assurances, it didn't work.

Like a horror movie villain that just won't die

On Friday, three weeks after I deleted every Gmail, I checked my purchases list.

I still see receipts for things I bought years ago. Prescriptions, food deliveries, books I bought on Amazon, music I purchased

from iTunes, a subscription to Xbox Live I bought from Microsoft -- it's all there.

 CNBC Tech: Google Purchases

A list of my purchases Google pulled in from Gmail.

Todd Haselton | CNBC

Google continues to show me purchases I've made recently, too.

I can't delete anything and I can't turn it off.

When I click on an individual purchase and try to remove it — it says I can do this by deleting the email, after all — it just redirects to my inbox and not to the original email message for me to delete, since that email no longer exists.

So Google is caching or saving this private information somewhere else that isn't just tied to my Gmail account.

When I wrote my original story, a Google spokesperson insisted this list is only for my use, and said the company views it as a convenience. Later, the company followed up to say this data is used to "help you get things done, like track a package or reorder food."

But it's a convenience I never asked for, and the fact that Google compiles and stores this information regardless of what I say or do is a bit creepy.

A spokesperson was not immediately available to comment on this latest development.

But it shows once again how tech companies often treat user privacy as a low-priority afterthought and will only make changes if user outrage forces their hand.

<https://archive.is/WXOD5>

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2019/07/11/google_assistant_voice_eavesdropping_creepy/

<https://www.technowize.com/google-home-is-sending-your-private-recordings-to-google-workers/>

<https://phys.org/news/2019-07-malicious-apps-infect-million-android.html>

<https://archive.fo/RrnuL#selection-1489.0-1489.170>

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/microsoft-stirs-suspicious-by-adding-telemetry-files-to-security-only-update/>

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2019/07/07/fbi-ice-use-driver-license-photos-without-owners-knowledge-consent/WmDbiCrNNWaWQrVrp7q3CL/story.html>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2019/07/08/tfl-begins-tracking-london-underground-commuters-using-wi-fi/>

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/fbi-ice-find-state-drivers-license-photos-are-a-gold-mine-for-facial-recognition-searches/ar-AADZk0d>

EVERYTHING IN AMERICA HAS BEEN HACKED OR SOON WILL BE:

In a country of just 7 million people, the [scale of the hack](#) means that just about every working adult has been affected.

"We should all be angry. ... The information is now freely available to anyone. Many, many people in Bulgaria already have this file, and I believe that it's not only in Bulgaria," said Genov, a blogger and political analyst. He knows his data was compromised because, though he's not an IT expert, he managed to find the stolen files online.

 [Microsoft says foreign hackers still actively targeting US political targets](#)


[Microsoft says foreign hackers still actively targeting US political targets](#)

The attack is extraordinary, but it is [not unique](#).

Government databases are gold mines for hackers. They contain a huge wealth of information that can be "useful" for years to come, experts say. "You can make (your password) longer and more sophisticated, but the information the government holds are things that are not going to change," said Guy Bunker, an information security expert and the chief technology officer at Clearswift, a cybersecurity company. "Your date of birth is not going to change, you're not going to move house tomorrow," he said. "A lot of the information that was taken was valid yesterday, is valid today, and will probably be valid for a large number of people in five, 10, 20 years' time."

Hackers' paradise

Data breaches used to be spearheaded by highly skilled hackers. But it increasingly doesn't take a sophisticated and carefully planned operation to break into IT systems. Hacking tools and malware that are available on the dark web make it possible for amateur hackers to cause enormous damage. A [strict data protection law](#) that came into effect last year across the European Union has placed new burdens on anyone who collects and stores personal data. It also introduced hefty fines for anyone who mismanages data, potentially opening the door for the Bulgarian government to fine itself for the breach.

 [Slack is resetting thousands of passwords after 2015 hack](#)

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Still, attacks against government systems are on the rise, said Adam Levin, the founder of CyberScout, another cybersecurity firm. "It's a war right now -- one we will win if we make cybersecurity a front-burner issue," he said. The notion that governments urgently need to step up their cybersecurity game is not new. Experts have been ringing alarm bells for years.

The US Department of Veterans Affairs suffered one of the first major data breaches in 2006, when personal data of more than 26 million veterans and military personnel were compromised. "And it was all, 'Oh, this is dreadful. We must do things to stop it.' ... And here we are, 13 years later, and an entire country's data has been compromised, and in between, there's been incidents of large swathes of citizen data being compromised in different countries," Bunker said. Out-of-date systems are often the problem. Some governments may have used private companies to manage the data they collected before the array of hacks and

breeches brought their attention to cybersecurity. "In many cases, our data was sent to third-party contractors years ago," Levin said. "The way we looked at data management 10 years ago seems antiquated today, yet that old data is still out there being managed by third parties, using legacy systems."

 [Chinese spies stole NSA hacking tools, report finds](#)

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If the "old data" hasn't changed, it's still valuable to hackers.

The Bulgaria incident is concerning, said Desislava Krusteva, a Bulgarian privacy and data protection lawyer who advises some of the world's biggest tech companies on how to keep their clients' information safe.

"These kinds of incidents should not happen in a state institution. It seems like it didn't require huge efforts, and it's probably the personal data of almost all Bulgarian citizens," said Krusteva, a partner at Dimitrov, Petrov & Co., a law firm in Sofia.

The Bulgarian Commission for Personal Data Protection has said it would launch an investigation into the hack.

A National Revenue Agency spokesman would not comment on whether the data was properly protected.

"As there is undergoing investigation, we couldn't provide more details about reasons behind the hack," Communications Director Rossen Bachvarov said.

'Very embarrassing for the government'

A 20-year-old cybersecurity worker has been arrested by the Bulgarian police in connection with the hack. The computer and software used in the attack led police to the suspect, according to the Sofia prosecutor's office.

The man has been detained, and the police seized his equipment, including mobile phones, computers and drives, the prosecutor's office said in a statement. If convicted, he could spend as long as eight years in prison.

 [US indicts two people in China over hacks](#)

[US indicts two people in China over hacks](#)

"It's still too early to say what exactly happened, but from political perspective, it is, of course, very embarrassing for the government," Krusteva said.

The embarrassment is made worse by the fact that this was not the first time the Bulgarian government was targeted. The country's Commercial Registry was brought down less than a year ago by an attack. "So, at least for a year, the Bulgarian society, politicians, those who are in charge of the country, they knew quite well about the serious cybersecurity problems in the government infrastructures," Genov said, "and they didn't do anything about it."

Hackers posted screenshots of the company's servers on Twitter and later shared the stolen data with Digital Revolution, another hacking group [who last year breached Quantum, another FSB contractor](#).

This second hacker group shared the stolen files in greater detail on their Twitter account, on Thursday, July 18, and with Russian journalists afterward.