Roxy Project

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Roxy 1.0 implemented in 2010 (Ericka's dissertation)

The HTTP web

Mobile was a small fraction of browsing

Original Articles

Researching Real-World Web Use with Roxy: Collecting Observational Web Data with Informed Consent

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Hawthorne Effects

Informed consent

Web Historian

[Demo]

Observation effects -- side effect - no retention issues!

Roxy 1.0

- HTTP proxy server.
- Relayed (most) content between subject and web endpoints.
- Gathered HTML and text content in addition to URLs.
- Mobile was not a target (and insufficiently capable in any case).
- Renderer irrelevant with wide adoption of HTTPS.

Web Historian (Roxy 2.0)

- Browser extension that would gather, visualize, and transmit web history from local browser histories.
- Only desktop Firefox and Chrome supported.
- Permitted HTTPS traffic analysis at the expense of content.

Roxy 3.0 (Coming Soon)

- Phase I: Back to the Proxy.
  - HTTPS proxy using private certificate authority to "man in the middle" SSL traffic.
  - Should address most desktop clients.
  - Some mobile clients (older Android, some iOS).
- Phase II: VPN.
  - Adapt existing open-source VPN software to direct HTTP/HTTPS traffic to Roxy proxy server.
  - Should fill "gaps" to the extent possible.